

U.S. panel votes against contra aid

WASHINGTON (R) — The U.S. House of Representatives, in a key procedural vote, on Wednesday opposed a grant of \$40 million to the Nicaraguan rebels until President Reagan accounts for previous aid, including proceeds from U.S. arms sales to Iran. The major test of House sentiment came several hours before the chamber was to take a final vote on the assistance. However, the 277-198 vote on a procedural matter was seen as a temporary defeat for Mr. Reagan, who has made aid to the "contra" rebels one of his major foreign policy initiatives. But congressional leaders, including foes of contra aid, have acknowledged it will be virtually impossible to prevent the \$40 million, which was approved last year, from going through. The White House has said Mr. Reagan will veto any legislation postponing the aid, and Congress is not expected to be able to override a veto. House Speaker Jim Wright, an opposition Democrat, said the House vote was important because it would "send a message" to Mr. Reagan that his contra programme was in trouble. "The administration must face reality and focus on other ways to find peace," Mr. Wright said.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordanian Press Foundation
جوردان تايمز يوميات سياسية مستقلة عن المؤسسة الصحفية الأردنية (الراي)

OAU leaders assail S. Africa

CAIRO (R) — A mini-summit of nine African nations ended on Wednesday with a statement condemning South Africa's policies and calling for national reconciliation in Chad. The one-day conference of the Organisation of African Unity (OAU) coordinating committee was attended by the leaders of Egypt, Congo, Sierra Leone, Djibouti, Zaire, Zambia, Uganda and lower level representatives from Mali and Algeria. On Chad, the most pressing issue on the agenda, the closing statement called for an end to hostilities between the Western-backed government of President Hissne Habre and Libyan forces in the north (Chad talks collapse, page 2). The statement expressed support for the idea of an international Middle East peace conference and reiterated backing for the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO). Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said Tuesday PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat had written to him about the situation of Palestinians in Lebanon, where they have been involved in fierce battles with the Shi'ite Amal militia. The Egyptian leader also said the issue should be discussed within the context of a total settlement of the Middle East crisis.

Volume 12 Number 3422

AMMAN, THURSDAY-FRIDAY MARCH 12-13, 1987, RAJAB 12-13 1407

Price: Jordan 100 fils; Syria 1 pound; Lebanon 1 pound; Saudi Arabia 1.50 riyals; UAE 1.50 dirhams; Great Britain 25 pence

French foreign minister due here

AMMAN (J.T.) — French Foreign Minister Jean Bernard Raimond and his wife are due here during March 19-21 for a visit, the Jordan News Agency, Petra said. Mr. Raimond will be accompanied by an official delegation of senior officials at the French Foreign Ministry, it said. Mr. Raimond will also visit Oman from March 21-23 and the United Arab Emirates from March 23-24.

Danish envoy presents credentials

AMMAN (J.T.) — Denmark's non-resident ambassador designate to Jordan Poul Bent Soendergaard on Wednesday handed a copy of his credentials to Foreign Minister Taher Al Masri. Mr. Soendergaard succeeds Mr. Niels Tillsch who has become director of a political department at the Danish Foreign Ministry in Copenhagen.

ICRC: No prisoner swap in offing

GENEVA (R) — A recent census of Lebanese and Palestinian prisoners in Israel by the International Committee for the Red Cross (ICRC) was routine and not made in preparation for any prisoner exchange, an ICRC spokeswoman said Wednesday. Anti-Arab parliamentarian Rabbi Meir Kahane said earlier that Israel was preparing to release hundreds of Arab prisoners in exchange for foreign hostages and an Israeli airman held in Lebanon.

Assad meets Polisario leader

DAMASCUS (R) — Visiting Polisario chief Mohammed Abdul Aziz on Wednesday discussed Arab and North African developments with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, the Syrian News Agency (SANA) reported. Mr. Abdul Aziz, on a four-day official visit, is president of the Saharan Arab Democratic Republic (SADR) proclaimed 11 years ago by Polisario guerrillas fighting Morocco for Western Sahara independence.

S. Arabia decrees death sentence for drug smugglers

RIYADH (AP) — Saudi Arabia has decreed the death penalty for convicted drug smugglers and public flogging for traffickers. The decree was announced by Interior Minister Prince Nayef Ibn Abdul Aziz, based on a religious ruling by a panel of Ulema, or learned Muslim clergymen. Prince Nayef told Saudi reporters the new penalty would be both a "warning and a deterrent" to smugglers and traffickers.

Fitzgerald quits Irish politics

DUBLIN (R) — Ousted Irish Prime Minister Garret Fitzgerald, architect of a landmark Anglo-Irish accord on Northern Ireland, bowed out of Irish politics on Wednesday when he resigned his leadership of the Fine Gael (Land of Ireland) party, heavily defeated in last month's Irish election. Just one day after banding over power to arch-rival Charles Haughey, the 61-year-old Fitzgerald astonished Fine Gael colleagues with an announcement that transformed the political scene.

Syrian commander pledges to protect AUB and other institutions

Hizbollah warns Syrians not to enter S. Beirut

BEIRUT (Agencies) — Syria's intelligence chief in Lebanon pledged on Wednesday to protect the kidnap-plagued American University of Beirut (AUB) and other educational institutions and said his commandos would deal severely with gunmen on campus.

The pledge followed a warning to Syria by the pro-Iranian Hizbollah (Party of God) to keep Syrian troops out of Beirut's southern suburbs, a Shi'ite stronghold where foreign hostages are reportedly held by militants. In another development, Lebanon's main rightist militia unveiled a plan to provide subsidised food for up to nearly 150,000 Christians hit by a nationwide economic crisis. The pledge to protect educational institutions in Beirut was made by Brigadier General Ghazi Kanaani in a statement broadcast by Beirut Radio. "Freedom of political activity at AUB and outside the university will be protected, but we will be very strict in dealing with any security threat in armed act," he said. AUB's 5,000 students staged a day-long strike to protest a pro-

"We advise those concerned that massacres and transgressions will not preserve security, but might cause an explosion," it said. "The southern suburbs have nothing to do with the (Syrian) security plan and no security measures are needed there," it added.

When Syrian troops entered west Beirut last month to quell inter-militia fighting, 18 Hizbollah supporters were killed in the mainly Shi'ite Muslim sector as the intervention force set about closing militia offices and bases there.

The organisation described the incident as a massacre and anti-Syrian slogans were shouted at a funeral for the victims. The move on Wednesday by the rightist "Lebanese Forces" militia to offer subsidised food to Christians was believed to be the first attempt to organise poverty relief by one of the many armed groups whose activities have enfeebled the central government during 12 years of civil war.

Libya accuses Hizbollah of terrorism, page 2

Iraq reports crushing attacks in north and south

BAGHDAD (Agencies) — Iraq said Wednesday its forces had crushed an Iranian attack on a strategic mountain peak in a rugged and snow-clad area of Iraqi Kurdistan and another assault on positions east of the Basra-Baghdad highway. The Iraqi News Agency (INA) said the attack was repelled on Tuesday by the Fifth Army Corps' 96th brigade on "Karda Kn" peak, overlooking the northern post of Haj Omran and 340 kilometres north of Baghdad. INA said hundreds of Iranians were killed and large quantities of armour and weapons were left behind. It did not give Iraqi casualties.

Kampelman cautions over hopes for arms pact

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The chief U.S. arms negotiator, Max Kampelman, has said prospects for a superpower agreement to eliminate medium-range missiles in Europe were good but he cautioned against over optimism. In a related development, the State Department announced that talks on Monday between the United States and Western allies on verifying a superpower agreement were successful and would allow Washington to soon introduce a formal proposal at U.S.-Soviet arms negotiations in Geneva.

Mr. Kampelman, who spoke to reporters after briefing Congress on the status of the Geneva talks, said the United States also wanted to reach an agreement to reduce strategic, or long-range, nuclear arms by 50 per cent. "We have a good shot at an agreement" on eliminating intermediate nuclear forces (INF) in Europe, Mr. Kampelman said. But he cautioned against too much optimism, citing a need to look carefully at the small print of any such accord. "I am concerned there is too much euphoria," he said. "The devil is in those details," Mr. Kampelman said. It appeared the allies, at least, had succeeded in reaching consensus on the tough verification issue.

NATO allies in two minds over missile plan, page 4
Weinberger calls for vigorous U.S. military role in space, page 8

Arab summit figures high in Fahd-Benjedid talks

ALGIERS (Agencies) — King Fahd of Saudi Arabia, who began an Algerian visit on Wednesday, wants to work more closely with socialist Algeria on questions of oil and Middle East policy, the Saudi ambassador in Algiers said. In an interview with the Algerian news agency APS, Ambassador Mohammed Hassan Faqih said King Fahd and Algerian President Chadli Benjedid would discuss the Palestinian question, the Arab-Israeli conflict and the search for Middle East peace. Also on the agenda were Lebanon and the "camps war", the Iran-Iraq war, the Western Sahara conflict and Chad. The king and Mr. Benjedid would also exchange views on the international oil market, where

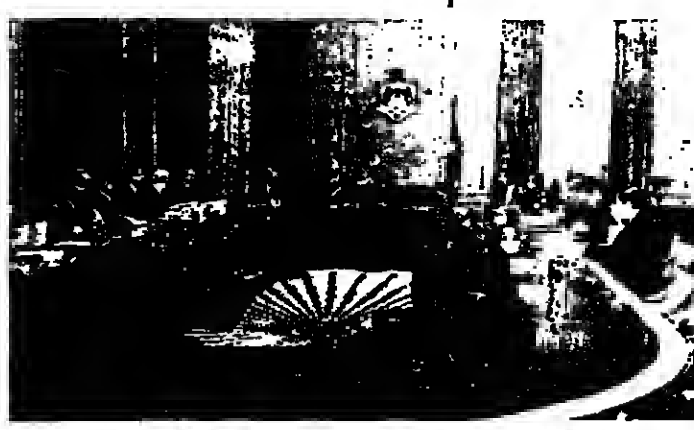
Walsh and Congress in conflict over immunity

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — Congressional investigators and the Iran arms scandal special prosecutor were headed for conflict on Wednesday over a move to get some quick answers on the affair by offering limited immunity to three leading figures. The three are Lieutenant-Colonel Oliver North, the former National Security Council (NSC) aide dismissed by President Ronald Reagan over the possibly illegal diversion of Iran arms payments to Nicaragua contra rebels, former NSC Director John Poindexter and retired Air Force Major-General Richard Secord, an associate of Col. North. Special prosecutor Lawrence Walsh, who must determine whether anyone should be prosecuted for criminal misconduct in

the affair, said on Tuesday he was asking congressional committees probing the scandal to delay granting limited immunity from prosecution for 90 days. He put the plea to the House of Representatives Iran committee at a 90-minute meeting on Tuesday, saying premature immunity could put the three beyond the law before a grand jury could decide whether they should be prosecuted. Mr. Walsh, appointed in December to lead a criminal investigation into the affair, said he was to make the same request to a Senate committee on Wednesday. Claims reports denial of arms sales to Iran; Swedish deals with Iran could go back to 1970, page 2

King reviews work of administrative reform panel

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein chaired a meeting on Wednesday of the Royal Commission for Administrative Reform to review the committee's work and progress as well as recommendations it has formulated while studying civil service and its relative legislations. The Jordan News Agency, Petra, said the committee had conducted a probe into ways and means to upgrade and reform the administrative and legislative aspects of the government structure and its relevant institutions. It has also studied regulations related to financial and public tender matters, Petra added. During the meeting Prime Minister Zaid Rifai presented a study prepared by the committee covering its work and recommendations to improve the performance of public administration as well as its socio-economic aspects. Mr. Rifai stressed that the drive behind the sought reforms was warranted by recent developments in legislative and organisational matters relevant to the socio-economic changes on the local, regional and international levels during the past decades. The meeting was attended by Royal Court Chief Marwan Al Qasem, Court Minister Adnan Abu Odeh, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief General Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker, Royal Court Secretary General Bassam Al Saket as well as the committee members. The commission's members are Finance Minister Hanna Odeh, Energy and Mineral Resources Minister Hisham Al Khatib, Planning Minister Taher Kanaani,



His Majesty King Hussein chairs a meeting on Wednesday of the Royal Commission for Administrative Reform (Petra photo)

Interior Minister Rajai Al Dajani, President of the Civil Service Bureau Ibrahim Izzeddine, the prime ministry's secretary general, the director of the prime ministry legislative bureau, the prime ministry's economic advisor and Institute of Public Administration Director General Abdullah Ellayan.

Tindemans offers efforts to launch Mideast talks

STRASBOURG (AP) — Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans of Belgium said Wednesday he was prepared to go to the Middle East to help lay the ground for an international peace conference. Speaking as president of the European Community (EC), Mr. Tindemans said "I am ready to go to the region if I am asked" by the EC partners. He reported to the European Parliament on a decision of the EC ministers last month to back the idea of an international conference on the Middle East. He said the 12 EC governments favoured such a conference under the auspices of the United Nations, but have not taken a decision on any procedural matters. He said the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) must participate in the talks. Peace in the Middle East, he said, must be built on the right of all the states in the region to exist and on the recognition of the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people. Mr. Tindemans said he did not intend to conduct "diplomatic tourism" but said he would go to the Middle East "to find out in which areas an agreement is possible". On a related topic, Mr. Tindemans said foreign ministers of Britain, Belgium and Denmark would soon meet with their counterparts from leading member countries of the Arab League to start a Euro-Arab dialogue. He said the secretary general of the league "has just responded favourably to our proposal" to hold such talks. In another development, a U.S. official said Tuesday U.S. envoy Richard W. Murphy might return to the Middle East for another assessment of prospects for Arab-Israeli peace talks. "The possibility of a trip is being discussed, but there are no definite plans," said the official, who demanded anonymity. Mr. Murphy, assistant secretary of state for Near East affairs, has been a frequent U.S. emissary to the Middle East. He was last in the region in mid-January, when he met with government leaders in Israel, Egypt, Saudi Arabia and Jordan.

Jordan gets Canadian help in oil exploration

By Salameh B. Ne'matt
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Jordan signed a two-year agreement with a Canadian oil and gas company on Wednesday. The agreement provides for Canadian technical assistance and supporting seismic work in the Kingdom's exploration for oil. Under the 19.1 million Canadian dollar agreement, the Petro-Canada International Assistance Corporation (PCIAIC), a subsidiary of the Canadian state oil company, will provide two geologists and two geophysicists to act as exploration advisors to the Natural Resources Authority (NRA). The advisors will also be part of a team that will assist Jordan in carrying out "a comprehensive evaluation of the country's hydrocarbon potential to identify possible exploration prospects." The Canadian company will assess NRA needs in computer systems and the operation of their geological laboratory. This, according to the NRA, will involve the assessment of the existing geological and geophysical data. Mr. Peter Towe, chairman of the PCIAIC, said Canadian oil companies would be providing technical assistance to Jordan at cost price to the company and at no cost to the Jordanian government. Speaking in an interview with the Jordan Times prior to the signing of the agreement, Mr. Towe said his government-funded non-profit company was established in 1981, to help developing countries reduce their dependence of imported oil. Mr. Towe said the agreement also provided for on-the-job training for Jordanians working in the field and that PCIAIC would finance the foreign costs of the project. The company will utilise contracted goods and services from Canada's oil and gas industry. "The bulk of the money will go for the acquisition and interpretation of seismic data," Mr. Towe said. (Continued on page 3)

JPA holds elections tomorrow

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — More than 180 Jordanian journalists go to the polls on Friday to elect a new Jordan Press Association (JPA) president and a nine-member council. Ibrahim Sakikha and Rakan Al Majali, two renowned journalists, are competing for the two-year presidency seat and 11 other journalists are running to fill six seats of the nine-seat council. According to the 1983 JPA law, the nine-seat council is divided equally to accommodate three representatives of Jordan's three press foundations and journalists and editors coming from both the private and public sector. Fayed Hamdan, Fakhr Al Abu



Ibrahim Sakikha

Hamdan and Hassan Al Tal have been nominated to fill the three seats earmarked for the three press foundations. Fuming to fill the three seats allocated for the private sector editors are Abdullah Hamdan, Youssef Al Absi, Zuhdi Al Badri, Ahmad Hisham, Fakhr Al Nimri, Mohammad Said Midieh and Sulaiman Al Barnawi. The three posts representing public sector editors are being sought by Marwan Al Shraideh, Mousa Al Azrai, Ahmad



Rakan Al Majali

Zughailat and Jou'ma Al Shwabkeh. Of the association's 190-general council members, 184 journalists, who have renewed their memberships, are eligible for voting. The elections will be held at the Amman Chamber of Commerce. There are no female journalists competing for council seats. Mahmoud Al Kayed, chief editor of Al Rai, is the outgoing JPA president after serving two consecutive terms.

Kohl sworn in for third term

BONN (AP) — The Bonn parliament elected Helmut Kohl as chancellor for the third time Wednesday, six weeks after West German voters handed Dr. Kohl's governing coalition a slightly diminished majority. Dr. Kohl was sworn in by Bundestag President Philipp Jenninger Wednesday afternoon. Wednesday's vote was largely a formality since Dr. Kohl's coalition of Christian Democrats, Christian Social Union and Free Democrats won a majority in the parliament in national elections. Dr. Kohl will need all his skill as a power broker to deal with militant farmers angry at plans to scrap subsidies, a fresh union drive for a shorter work week, simmering coalition disputes — and five state elections this year. Dr. Kohl, 56, accepted his reelection as warm applause rang out in parliament.

Israeli inner cabinet seeks ways to cool Pollard affair

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — Israel's policy-making inner cabinet Wednesday discussed the Pollard spy affair and argued over the future of two Israelis said to have run the espionage operation in the United States. Foreign Minister Shimon Peres proposed to the 10-person forum that the resignation of the two officials was the only way to avoid further strains in ties with Washington, political sources said. Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir opposed forcing former spy-master Rafi Eitan, now head of Israel Chemicals, and Colonel Aviem Sella, commander of Israel's second largest air base, to quit. Israel Radio reported that Mr. Shamir, Mr. Peres and Defence Minister Yitzhak Rabin agreed that a parliamentary sub-committee on intelligence should investigate what Israeli leaders said was an unsanctioned spy operation. Economic Planning Minister Gad Yankobi of Mr. Peres's

U.S. to offer uranium-core shells to Jordan

WASHINGTON (Agencies) — The Defence Department has confirmed that the Reagan administration has decided to offer uranium-core anti-tank missiles to Jordan, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Robert Sims, the chief spokesman for the department, answering reporters' questions about the reported sale, said that "in response to requests from various countries," it was planned to offer the munition to a number of countries, including the three Middle East countries. Sims added that all releases of this type of munition were made with the full concurrence of the State Department. The spokesman pointed out that depleted uranium, because of its extremely dense mass, is used in a number of munitions designed for piercing heavy armour. The Washington Times quoted an unidentified official as saying that Jordan, Saudi Arabia and Egypt each would be sold weaponry worth "considerably less" than \$14 million, the threshold that triggers a legal requirement that Congress be notified of the transfer. "I believe a decision has been made" on the sale, he said. The 105-mm rounds, designed to be fired from an M-60 or M-48 tank, have a core of depleted uranium, an extremely heavy substance that enhances their ability to penetrate thick tank armour. Depleted uranium-238 is a common byproduct of a process to extract enriched U-235, its cousin, for use in nuclear reactors and other processes. Although it is non-radioactive, depleted U-238 is classified by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission as "a source material". Theoretically, depleted uranium could be converted into plutonium. U.S. reportedly searching for more Israeli spies, page 2

INSIDE

- Chad peace talks collapse, page 2
- Jordan will continue Sudan aid, Crown Prince says, page 3
- Students step into Palestinian leadership vacuum, page 4
- Kuwait — an exemplary donor to Third World, page 5
- Liverpool extends lead, page 6
- S. Arabia exempts foreigners from pension scheme, page 7
- Kabul offers timetable for Soviet pullout, page 8

Chad peace talks collapse

Libyan troops, tanks reported still in Sudan

KHARTOUM, Sudan (AP) — Sudanese-sponsored peace talks between Chad and Libya broke down on the first day and no date was set to resume them, a senior Chadian official said Wednesday.

At the same time, the official and a Khartoum newspaper reported that Libyan troops with 100 tanks remain in western Sudan, close to the border with Chad. The Sudanese government has said the only Libyan soldiers in Sudan were escorts for a relief convoy and that they were withdrawing.

The Chadian official, who was close to the peace talks held last Sunday, spoke to the Associated Press on condition his name be withheld.

He said the talks collapsed "in the very first session because the Libyan side came to the negotiating table with the concept of solving a problem between Chadians... the Libyans were of the opinion that there is no problem between Libya and Chad."

Civil war has raged in Chad for most of its 27-year history as an independent state. Libya has occupied parts of northern Chad for several years, claiming they constituted Libyan territory. It was reported to have annexed the area around Aozou, said to contain uranium deposits.

Despite Libyan denials, Col. Muammar Qadhafi's army also has been supporting Chad rebels

fighting against the central government of President Hissene Habre.

Western diplomats in the Chad capital N'Djamena and the U.S. State Department say Libya has more than 10,000 troops presently in Chad. France has several thousand troops backing Mr. Habre.

Sudanese Prime Minister Sadek Al Mahdi broke news of the Chad-Libya peace talks in Khartoum at a news conference on Monday.

Al Hassan Tajeddin, a member of the five-man state council that serves as Sudan's head of state, travelled to N'Djamena and Tripoli and was instrumental in arranging the talks, which he attended.

The Chadian official said his country was represented at the talks by Karom Ahmad, the state minister for foreign affairs, and Libya by Foreign Minister Jadhah Azzou Al Talhi, appointed in a cabinet shuffle on March 1.

"The Sudanese government could not put pressure on the Libyan side to admit that the real problem arises from the Libyan presence in Chad," the

official said in explaining the deadlock. "Our sole big problem is Libya's occupation and its ambitions in our country."

He emphasised that no interim ceasefire had been arranged at Sunday's meeting.

"The Libyans want to gain time to tighten their grip on Chadian territories they occupy and also to prepare their forces to strike at us from Sudan," the official said.

He said that about 2,000 Libyan troops and 100 tanks had entered north western Sudan across their border on March 4 and headed toward Tripoli, on the frontier between Sudan and Chad. The tanks were carried on 50 flatbed trucks, he added.

The official said the Chadians told Sudanese authorities that the presence of Libyan troops in western Sudan "constitutes a hostile act against Chad."

"We were told by our Sudanese brothers that the Libyans troops had pulled out," he said.

Mr. Mahdi initially denied that any Libyan forces were in Sudan. Last Sunday, however, he said Libyan troops escorting "a relief convoy" had been in Sudan but at his request had begun a withdrawal.

He also said his government was urging parties to the Chad conflict to stop using Sudanese

territory and air space in their war efforts.

Khartoum's independent English-language newspaper Sudan Times on Wednesday quoted witnesses just returned to the capital from the western city of Al Fasher as saying the Libyan military there showed no signs of imminent departure.

"They were parading with Libyan insignia on their tanks and vehicles as they drove leisurely in and around the town," one witness was quoted as saying.

Libya condemns France

Libya has condemned French President Francois Mitterrand for saying France planned to continue its aid to Chad, Libyan television reported.

"The People's Committee of the People's Bureau for Foreign Liaison (Foreign Ministry) condemns this colonialist stance," said a statement carried by the television, monitored by the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC).

Mr. Mitterrand told a press lunch in Paris Tuesday that French aid to Chad was increasing every month and said a solution to the conflict in the central African state would depend primarily on military strength.

U.S. reportedly searching for more Israeli spies

TEL AVIV (Agencies) — U.S. authorities are conducting an intensive investigation to ferret out Israeli spying on the United States, the Dava newspaper said Wednesday.

In a report from Washington, the newspaper said U.S. investigators believe Israeli agents decided to lie low immediately after the arrest in November 1985 of U.S. navy analyst Jonathan Pollard, now serving a life term for spying for Israel.

Dava said the agents' present inactivity was making it difficult for the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) to expose them.

The FBI was working on the assumption that Pollard was an isolated case and Israeli intelligence authorities had succeeded in planting agents in highly sensitive U.S. government agencies, the newspaper said.

Dava is a respected daily affiliated with the Labour Party led by Foreign Minister Shimon Peres. Peres has pledged that Israel will never again spy on the United States, its closest ally. Israeli leaders claimed Pollard was recruited behind their backs by a now-disbanded intelligence unit in the Defence Ministry.

In a speech in Jerusalem Tuesday night, President Chaim Herzog said in reference to the Pollard affair: "I trust that everything has been done that there can be no recurrence of such distressing events."

He told members of the U.S. Jewish organisation Haddash that Israel accepted responsibility for "grave mistakes" made in spying on the United States.

Meanwhile Israel Radio reported Tuesday that the family of Anne Henderson-Pollard, sentenced to five years in prison for helping her husband, has appealed to Israel to cover her legal expenses.

The radio said that Henderson-Pollard's father, Bernard Henderson of New Jersey, made an unofficial request through the Israeli embassy in Washington and was waiting for a response.

China again denies Iran arms sales

PEKING (AP) — China denied again Wednesday U.S. contentions that it supplies arms to Iran. Foreign Ministry spokesman Ma Yuzhen said at a weekly briefing that "the Chinese government's consistent position of providing no weapons to Iran is known to all."

The issue of American arms sales to Iran was discussed during a visit by U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz last week.

Ma said Shultz, during talks with Chinese leaders, explained the U.S. political uproar involving secret arms sales to Iran directed from the White House.

Ma did not comment on any discussions concerning China's alleged arms deals with Iran.

Washington claims that China has become a major supplier of weapons to Iran, with some arms being shipped through North Korea and other third countries.

On Tuesday, the Iranian embassy in Peking also issued a statement strongly denying any arms transactions between the two countries.

An embassy official noted Wednesday that Iran used primarily Western-type weapons, models completely different from those produced by China, in its more than six-year war against Iraq.

Swedish arms deals with Iran may go back to 1970

STOCKHOLM, Sweden (AP) — A prosecutor investigating Sweden's spreading arms smuggling scandal is investigating whether a top cabinet minister sanctioned secret shipments to Iran in the 1970s, media reports said Wednesday.

Prosecutor Stig Age was investigating charges that Finance Minister Kjell-Olof Feldt, who was trade minister at the time, secretly approved illegal weapons exports by the Bofors AB company in exchange for Iranian oil, the national radio reported.

The radio and newspapers quoted an unidentified businessman who said he won Mr. Feldt's approval in 1973 to transport missiles, mines and cannons by truck to Shah Mohammad Reza Pahlavi's Iran.

Mr. Feldt, the respected architect of Sweden's economic policy, rejected the allegations.

"If this concerns deals incompatible with Swedish laws, then I have not given my approval. This is so obvious. I have nothing more to say," Mr. Feldt told the Dagens Nyheter daily.

Hans Ekblom, a former marketing director for Bofors, was quoted by the daily as saying the company sent only explosives to Iran for which export licences had been granted, and denied sending military hardware.

Mr. Age is investigating charges of smuggling Bofors-built anti-aircraft missiles to Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini's Iran in the early 1980s. A parliamentary committee is investigating the government's role in the affair.

Chairman of U.S. joint chiefs visits Bahrain

BAHRAIN (R) — Admiral William Crowe, chairman of the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff, had talks Wednesday with leaders in Bahrain which has ordered sophisticated American warplanes.

U.S. officials said Adm. Crowe — the top U.S. military commander who is visiting Gulf Arab states in the wake of the Iran arms sales scandal — met the emir, Sheikh Isa bin Sulman Al Khalifa.

Adm. Crowe earlier visited Saudi Arabia, where the official Saudi Press Agency said he had talks with the Defence Minister, Prince Sultan bin Abdul Aziz, on boosting military cooperation.

Adm. Crowe's meeting with Bahrain's emir was attended by Prime Minister Sheikh Khalifa bin Sulman Al Khalifa. He also met separately with Crown Prince and Defence Minister Sheikh Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa, the Bahrain-based Gulf News Agency said.

U.S. officials and the agency gave no details of the talks, which followed a recent upsurge in ground fighting between Iran and Iraq at the head of the Gulf.

The United States maintains a fleet of about five warships in the Gulf and has a carrier-led battle group in the Arabian Sea outside the Strait of Hormuz between Oman and Iran. It is also major weapons' supplier to Gulf Arab states.

Bahrain and Saudi Arabia, together with Kuwait, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, comprise the Gulf Cooperation Council and generally support Iraq in the war with Iran.

The Pentagon said in January it was seeking congressional approval to supply Bahrain with 12 F-16 fighting Falcon jets, air-to-air missiles and other equipment worth \$400 million. This would be the first sale of Falcons to a Gulf state.

Turkish ambassadors start talks on move to join EC

ANKARA (R) — Foreign Minister Vahit Hafezoglu began two days of talks with Turkey's ambassadors in the European Community (EC) Wednesday to discuss tactics for its planned application to join the 12-nation bloc.

The government has said it will lodge a bid this year and EC diplomats say they expect the application before the end of June, when Belgium, seen as relatively sympathetic, bands the EC presidency to Denmark, regarded as cool to the idea.

A Foreign Ministry statement said the 13 envoys, including Ankara's permanent representative to the EC, would review with Mr. Hafezoglu and Minister of

State for Relations with the EC Ali Bozer the long-term development of ties with the bloc.

Officials said Mr. Hafezoglu would hear the envoys' views on how the EC members were expected to react to the Turkish application.

Giving the results of its own survey, the liberal daily Milliyet answered Wednesday under the headline: "EEC does not want us."

The issue has long preoccupied Turkish public opinion and is regarded as a test of Turkey's acceptance in the club of West European democracies following military rule between 1980 and 1983.

School, cars damaged in Egyptian sectarian riots

CAIRO (AP) — "Foolish rumours" have sent Muslim fundamentalist students on the rampage, smashing car windows and damaging a secondary school building in Al Faiyum, the state-owned newspaper Al Akhbar reported in its Wednesday early edition.

The newspaper said 46 students were arrested in the riots that took place on Monday following the rumours which claimed that Christian Copts were spray-painting the sign of the cross on the clothing of Muslim girls.

No casualties were reported but the newspaper said 39 of the arrested were later released on bail.

Peace and order were restored Tuesday after riot police brought the situation under control in Faiyum, 103 kilometres south west of Cairo, the newspaper said without giving further details.

"Not a single student" of the arrested was able to verify the rumours during investigations conducted by six state security prosecuting attorneys, the newspaper said.

A government statement at the time said Muslim fundamentalists burned a church in each town after spreading "false rumours" that also said that Copts had set fire to a mosque in Sohag, 400 kilometres south of Cairo.

Libyan leader accuses Hizbollah of terrorism

BEIRUT (AP) — Libyan leader Col. Muammar Qadhafi has attacked the Iranian-backed Shiite Muslim group Hizbollah and accused it of terrorism, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

"We support Hizbollah if it calls for martyrdom on Palestinian soil. But if Lebanon is the target, then this is terrorism," Col. Qadhafi told the daily newspaper An Nida.

The paper, organ of the Moscow-oriented Lebanese Communist Party, said the Libyan leader made the remark in an interview Tuesday in Tripoli. Libya, with seven Arab journalists, including its correspondent, Hizbollah, or Party of God, advocates the creation of an Islamic republic in Lebanon modelled after Khomeini's Iran.

Col. Qadhafi, who supports Iran against Iraq in the 6½-year-old Gulf war, said Hizbollah's call for an Islamic state "means despoiling half of Lebanon."

Lebanon has a mixed Christian-Muslim population of 4 million people.

"Jihad in Lebanon against whom?" Col. Qadhafi asked, using the Arabic word for holy war. "He who is not a member of Hizbollah, is he a member of the party of Satan? This is terrorism and foolishness."

However, the Libyan leader declared support to holy war if it were targeted against Israel and the United States.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

15:30 Koran
15:50 Programme Review
16:20 Children's programme
16:30 Don Kotsch Show
17:00 Local Health programme
17:30 French Teaching programme
18:30 News programme
19:00 Programme Review and varieties
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Arabic series
21:20 Tomorrow's programmes
21:30 Varieties
22:20 Arabic film
23:00 News Summary in Arabic
23:10 Film continued

PROGRAMME TWO

18:00 Champs Elysees
19:00 News in French
19:15 Les investigations accidentelles chez l'enfant
19:30 News in Hebrew
19:45 World Sports
20:00 News in Arabic
20:30 Paul Daniel Show
21:30 Remington Steele
22:00 News in English
22:20 Feature film: "The Hit" — John Hurt, Tim Roth, Laura Del Sol

RADIO JORDAN

835 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & partly on 95.0 KHz, SW
Tel: 774111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

07:00 Light Music
07:30 Newsdesk
08:00 Morning Show
08:30 News Summary
08:45 Morning Show Contd.
09:00 News in Arabic
09:15 Pop Session
09:30 Hivvill: The story of Motown
10:00 News Summary
10:15 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
10:45 News Bulletin
10:50 Instruments
11:00 Just a Minute
11:15 Concert Hour
11:30 News Summary
11:45 Old Favourites
11:50 The Musical in Review
12:00 Pop Session
12:15 News Summary
12:30 Special Feature
12:45 Music
13:00 Newsdesk
13:15 Date with a Star
20:00 Evening Show

FOR FRIDAY

JORDAN TELEVISION

Tel: 773111-19

PROGRAMME ONE

16:00 Koran
16:20 Programme Review
16:30 Cartoons and children's programme
16:40 Toy Box III
17:00 Friday's Prayer
17:30 Sport Magazine
17:40 Religious Seminar
17:50 Arabic Series
18:00 Variety programme
18:10 Jaz Eyre
18:30 Arabic Series
18:40 Arabic Series
18:50 Religious Seminar
19:30 News Programme
20:00 Programme Review
20:30 News in Arabic

BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1323 KHz

PROGRAMME ONE

06:00 Newsdesk 06:30 Classical Record Review 06:45 Reflections 06:50 Financial News 07:00 World News 07:09 24 Hours: News Summary 07:30 Pictorial Choice 07:45 The World Today 08:00 Newsdesk 08:30 Masterpiece in Miniature 08:40 The Farming World 09:00 World News 09:10 24 Hours: News Summary 09:30 Sing Gospel 09:45 Newsdesk 10:00 World News 10:09 Reflections 10:15 Country Style 10:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:00 World News 15:09 24 Hours: News Summary 15:30 Sing Gospel 15:45 Newsdesk 16:00 World News 16:09 Reflections 16:15 Country Style 16:30 John Peel 11:00 World News 11:09 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News, Look Ahead 11:45 Technologies for the 21st Century 12:00 News Summary: Look What They've Done to my Song 12:30 After Henry 12:45 News Summary: Just Like Old Times 12:59 News About Britain 13:15 News Ideas 13:25 A Letter from England 13:30 Assignment 14:00 Radio Newsweek 14:15 Multitrack 2 — Top Twenty 14:45 Sports Round-up 15:

Crown Prince graduates special forces trainees

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan Wednesday attended a ceremony for the graduation of a group of crack troops of the Public Security Forces who have just completed a 10-week special military training course.

During the ceremony, the graduates, who included officers from other Arab countries, presented a performance of their skills which included hand-to-hand fighting and mountain climbing.

At the end of the ceremony, Prince Hassan distributed diplomas and awards to the graduates. Among those attending were the military commander of the south-

ern regions of Jordan, commander of the special forces corps and other senior officers.

Visit to Qweira

After the ceremony, Prince Hassan called at Qweira district and met with representatives of the badiya people who welcomed the Prince and pledged their total allegiance to the Hashemite throne.

Prince Hassan heard requests presented by the bedouin tribes and their views on developing their society.

The Aqaba district governor and other officials were present at the meeting.

Security forces round up 4-member gang of thieves

AMMAN (Petra) — Security forces in Wadi Seer, west of Amman, have apprehended a four-member gang of thieves specialised in robbing schools and supermarkets and have seized goods found in the thieves' homes.

Lieutenant Sa'id Jamil Al Ajlami, director of the Wadi Seer security station, said that the four thieves admitted breaking and entering schools and supermarkets in Umm Al Summaq, Tabarbour, Jawa, Rajib, Sahab Al Mansoura and Khulda in the Amman and Madaba districts where they stole cash from the schools' canteens and television sets, scent, cameras and carpets from stores.

He said that on March 9, a member of the public tipped off

the police with information about one of the gang members, Odeh Awwad Al Nu'aimat from Umm Al Summaq, aged 38. Odeh was immediately placed under surveillance and a policeman posing as a thief succeeded in making contacts with him to plan a robbery. Lt. Ajlami said. He said that the two agreed to rob a school in Mahes, but the robber was caught red-handed and informed on the other members of the gang. The police then went to their homes where they found the stolen goods.

The other members of the gang were: 24-year old Yassin Hijazi, 36-year old Hassan Abu Ghanim and Mohammad Ismail Ramadan — all unemployed.

U.S. women's delegation begins 4-day visit to Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A delegation representing the Friendship Among Women (FAW) organisation in the United States arrived in Amman Wednesday on a four-day visit to Jordan during which they will familiarise themselves with the work and activities of Jordanian women's unions.

The 15-member group first visited the Nour Al Hussein Foundation and were briefed on its activities in promoting the role of Jordanian women, especially those in rural regions of Jordan. Later, they visited Baqaa refugee camp and inspected activities supervised by the Young Women's Christian Association which runs workshops for training young women in different handicrafts.

The delegation members also visited the archaeological town of Jerash and were briefed on its historical background. The FAW is a non-profit organisation established to promote

cultural exchange and understanding among women leaders of the world. Founded in Minnesota in 1970, the FAW is distinguished by the diversity of its members who represent every region of the United States and a variety of professional backgrounds. The organisation is an autonomous and financially self-supported group which receives briefings and assistance from the U.S. State Department. Its members have travelled extensively in Asia, the Middle East, Europe and Latin America.

The information and experience that the members obtain is communicated to professional and civic organisations in the United States as the FAW believes this would further the general objective of promoting cultural appreciation and peaceful co-existence among peoples of the world.



His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan bids farewell to members of a Jordanian medical team which left for relief work in Sudan on Wednesday (Petra photo)

Kanaan briefs Scottish team on 5-year plan

AMMAN (Petra) — A visiting delegation from the Scottish development agency on Wednesday held talks with Minister of Planning Taher Kanaan who presented a detailed briefing on Jordan's 1986-1990 five-year plan and the projects which have been given priority for implementation. Dr. Kanaan also spoke about incentives and privileges offered to investors and said the door is open for joint ventures.

A spokesman for the delegation said that his country was ready to offer expertise in industry, tourism and agriculture and also investment services. He underlined the importance of setting up industries for the manufacture of export-oriented products in view of Jordan's central location in the Arab World.

On Tuesday, members of the Scottish delegation met with Mr. Hamdi Al Tabbaa, president of the Federation of Jordanian Chambers of Commerce (FJCC).

The two sides discussed prospects of cooperation between Jordan and Scotland, and means by which Jordan could benefit from Scotland's advanced technology.

The Jordanian side expressed willingness to cooperate with Scottish businesses in carrying out joint ventures in food industries, technological schemes and the petrochemical sector. Mr. Tabbaa said that Jordan could cooperate with countries in the Gulf region and with Scotland in the production of petrochemical products. He also promised that the FJCC would prepare a list of projects which Jordan and Scotland could cooperate in implementing and that the federation would also outline how Jordan could benefit from Scotland's experience.

Ministry team to advise school pupils on vocational studies

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Education has prepared a plan, offering a choice of study in eight different vocational subjects to students of third preparatory schools in the Kingdom, and a team from the ministry will soon be touring schools to explain these courses of study and to help students select the most suitable subjects. Dr. Ahmad Atwan, the director of vocational training at the Ministry of Education, announced here Wednesday.

Dr. Atwan said that the students who will be sitting for general examinations in June at the end of preparatory education stage will be able to choose from a variety of industrial, agricultural, commercial and hotel management courses provided at vocational training centres

around the Kingdom.

The ministry team will be explaining the opportunities for work in these trades both in Jordan and abroad and will be distributing pamphlets to students to help them choose their subjects, Dr. Atwan added.

He said that in the industrial stream, the students can study auto mechanics, blacksmithing, welding, central heating, plumbing, plastering, upholstery, electricity, radio and television and telecommunications.

In the administrative and commercial stream, students can take courses in office work, typing, filing and other related subjects, and in the agricultural field students can enrol at schools in Shobak, Rabbeh, Kufi Yoha, Maaddi or Ajloun.

Journalists tour joint project to combat desertification

AMMAN (Petra) — Local and foreign journalists Wednesday were taken on a tour of a project for the development of semi-arid regions at Mawraq, south east of Amman, and were briefed on the work being carried out there.

Dr. Mahmoud Al Dweiri, dean of the Faculty of Agriculture at the University of Jordan, said that the project is being carried out between the university and the European Community on 2,000 dunams of land which was

made available for the project by the Jordanian government.

He told the journalists that work on the project started in 1983 and that it aims at developing the exploitation of water resources for agricultural projects. Research work is also being conducted to find means of improving soil fertility, preventing erosion and improving crop production. The project also deals with desertification by planting certain types of plants and creating pasture zones, Dr. Dweiri said.

Free zone board discusses investments

DERAA (Petra) — Jordan and Syria held talks on Wednesday near the border town of Deraa to discuss issues related to investments and the progress of the Jordanian-Syrian industrial free zone company.

The talks held during a meeting of the company's board of direc-

tors under the chairmanship of Audit Bureau Chief Hashem Al Dahbas in the presence of Syrian Assistant Minister of Supply and Domestic Trade Ahmad Al Dahbas, who is also the company's vice-chairman of the board of directors, and the director general Abdul Rahman Salameh.

Seminar forms committee to prepare guidelines for draft law on narcotics

By Sa'ad G. Hattar
Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A two-day seminar on narcotics ended its deliberations Wednesday by forming a special committee to sum up the seminar's working papers into recommendations and guidelines for the new draft law on drugs, which is currently under study.

A number of concerned officials and prominent experts on drugs and their socio-economic impact on society presented working papers on the present drugs law as well as the projected draft amendments to the legislation, the reasons behind drug addiction and its impact on society.

The focus of Wednesday's session, which was moderated by lawyer Tawfiq Salem, touched on the Islamic ruling (Shari'a) on narcotics as well as the types of drugs, their medical applications and authorities' control over their circulation.

In his working paper, the General Mufti of Jordan Sheikh Ezziddin Khatib, emphasised the need to take into account the Islamic faith in drawing up any preventative schemes to curb drug addiction. He said that the Islamic deeds and faith, which shun the use of all intoxicants (including drugs and alcohol), should be the basis in any projected plan aimed at curbing drug addiction and trafficking.

Sheikh Khatib made a chronological review of the use of alcohol and drugs in the pre-Islamic ages and how all hallucinogens were gradually shunned since the advent of Islam. He stressed the importance of launching a public awareness campaign to draw the public attention to the negative effects resulting from the use of drugs.

Physician Khalil Abu Zinad

presented an outline on the diagnosis of drug addiction and the best medical means to rehabilitate addicts of alcohol and narcotics. Dr. Abu Zinad explained that classified data about the reasons behind drug addiction and the type of narcotics used in a case should be evaluated in order to make the rehabilitation process a success.

He categorised the drugs that lead to addiction as tranquillisers, sedatives, stimulants and hallucinogens. Dr. Abu Zinad attributed the reasons behind drug addiction to numerous physical disorders, mental disturbances and other related ailments. The socio-economic status of an individual is another major factor which could drive a person to taking drugs. He added that people in certain jobs are at more risk since they might have access to hallucinogens.

Rehabilitation of addicts

On latest medical advances to rehabilitate addicts, Dr. Abu Zinad said that treating drug and alcohol addiction is considered a branch of specialised mental treatment. Based on this, most psychiatric clinics round the world have allocated a special ward for treating addicts. In Jordan, however, "we still do not have a specialised centre to treat addiction cases and that is due to accumulated social and cultural barriers," said Dr. Abu Zinad. Moreover, most Jordanians are not aware of the fact that most cases of addiction are curable once they receive the proper treatment, he said, calling on the information media to highlight the scale of the problem and to initiate public awareness campaigns.

A large number of people

attended the seminar which was organised by the Business and Professional Women's Club. The turnout included high level government officials, senior Public Security Department (PSD) officers, doctors, lawyers and members of the public.

He stressed the need to draft a new law which would provide protection for drug addicts once they turn themselves in for treatment. Those addicts, he added, may not find the courage to ask for treatment for fear of either social or legal repercussions.

Dr. Abu Zinad said that treating drug-addicts depends largely on the cooperation of the addicts and their parents as well as the expertise of the medical personnel involved. Unfortunately, he said, the percentage of success in most cases is quite low due to the fact that most drug addicts have, at one stage or another, had disturbances or mental disorders.

The basic element in treating drug addiction cases lies in admitting them to specialised rehabilitation centres where they should undergo a thorough medical check-up, he said.

Dr. Nuseimeh Da'oud presented a working paper in which she discussed the underlying reasons behind using narcotics as well as their impact.

In his working paper, pharmacist Husam Eldin Mismar made a review of the types, origins and applications of drugs over the years. His paper also included a study on the early stages of growing international concern towards the destructive effects of narcotics on the human body and international legislations governing the control over illegal drugs and their trafficking.

The audience took part in wide-ranging discussions between the working papers.

Jordan's aid programme in Sudan to continue, Prince Hassan says

More doctors, technicians leave with relief supplies for victims of drought and famine

AMMAN (Petra) — His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan said Wednesday that Jordan will continue to implement its aid programme in Sudan, especially in the sectors of health, irrigation and agriculture.

He made the statement upon seeing off another Jordanian medical mission which left for Sudan to continue Jordan's programme of assistance. The mission groups 10 doctors, 10 male nurses and technicians and their plane took off with seven tonnes of medical supplies and five tonnes of food supplies for the relief of people affected by drought and famine in Sudan.

Prince Hassan said, that apart from carrying out medical aid, Jordan has made plans for building irrigation networks to encourage the Sudanese people to carry out agricultural projects. Recent surveys have shown the availability of 3.5 million cubic metres

water in underground regions and attention will now be directed towards exploiting this water for farming in cooperation with the Islamic Development Bank and other Arab and Islamic institutions, Prince Hassan said.

He said that once final assessments on the water situation has been made plans for its exploitation will go ahead.

Among the officials bidding farewell to the medical mission was Dr. Abdul Salam Al Ahbadi, under secretary of the Ministry of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, who is also rapporteur of the Jordanian National Committee for Solidarity with the Sudanese People.

Hamzeh leaves for Khartoum

Health Minister Zaid Hamzeh left for Khartoum on Wednesday to take part in the Arab Health Ministers Council meetings, due to open in the Sudanese capital on Saturday.

Dr. Hamzeh said he would also be visiting health centres set up by Jordanian medical teams that have been providing medical assistance to Sudan and that he would also hold talks with Sudanese officials on means of stepping up bilateral cooperation in health affairs.

Dr. Hamzeh said that the council's executive committee will meet before the scheduled meeting of the ministers in order to review the implementation of a number of earlier resolutions passed by the council and to work out an agenda for the ministers meeting.

UNESCO envoy studies situation in West Bank

AMMAN (Petra) — Under Secretary of the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs Ahmad Qatanani Wednesday conferred with an envoy from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) headquarters in Paris on the situation in the occupied Arab territories.

Dr. Qatanani told the envoy, Professor Edward Bonet, about Israel's continued violations of human rights in the occupied Arab territory and its arbitrary actions against the Arab people and their educational organisations and universities. Dr. Qatanani also referred to Israel's constant storming of schools, the arrest of students and the confiscation of publications and textbooks.

The UNESCO envoy is currently on a fact-finding tour of the region to investigate the conditions of cultural and educational institutions in the occupied Arab territory.

Mr. Bonnet later met with Dr. Mohammad Dugheim, the secretary general of the Amman-based Association of Arab Universities. Dr. Dugheim outlined Israel's arbitrary measures against universities in the occupied Arab lands and said the detention of university professors and school teachers by Israel was a bid to impede the education process in the Arab territory.

Jordan gets Canadian help

(Continued from page 1)

said, adding that "from a technical standpoint, our feeling is that the prospectivity here (in Jordan) is very good."

Despite Canada's large budget deficit, Mr. Towe, a former diplomat, said his country believes that such projects "are in the best interest of world peace and stability."

This is the first such development aid programme with Jordan.

An NRA press release said the Canadian company would be carrying out a 6000-kilometre seismic survey and processing 8000 kilometres of existing seismic data.

Mr. Towe said that the project came as a direct result of a visit last year by Canadian Foreign Minister Joe Clark, and his talks with His Majesty King Hussein

and His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

Mr. Towe explained that at his return, Mr. Clark expressed the need to strengthen relations with Jordan, and as a result, "PCIA was ready to respond quickly."

At the signing of the agreement, Energy and Natural Resources Minister Hisham Al Khatib expressed in a brief statement the government's appreciation of the Canadian government and PCIA, saying that the accord "heralded the further strengthening of relations between the two countries."

Mr. Towe, who was appointed as PCIA's board chairman at the conclusion of his term as Canada's ambassador to the United States in 1981, said that his current job was "more rewarding — in the sense that achievements are more tangible and longer lasting."

The Institute of Professional Managers & Administrators

Welcomes applications for Membership from experienced and intending managers and administrators world-wide.

Prospectus about the IPMA, its international activities and objectives, grades of membership available, and training recommended obtainable from:—

The Membership Secretary
Bel Air House, P.O. Box 418, Jersey, Britain.
Telephone: 534-30875. Telex: 4192499 STMIT G

NEWS IN BRIEF

More cement heads for Egypt

AMMAN (Petra) — A fifth vessel loaded with 36,000 tonnes of Jordanian cement Wednesday left Aqaba port for Egypt. A sixth ship is presently docked at Aqaba port to be loaded with Jordanian cement for Egypt. This brings to 140,000 tonnes the quantities of cement which have been exported to Egypt. Last month Jordan and Egypt reached agreement on increasing the shipments of Jordanian cement to one million tonnes annually, up from 750,000.

Medics examine workers' health in Aqaba

AQABA (Petra) — A specialised medical team from the health department in Aqaba district governorate has started conducting a comprehensive health survey of workers employed at the Jordan Phosphate Mines Company (JPMC), the Arab Potash Company and the Jordan Fertilisers Industry Company. The survey, to be conducted with the aid of modern specialised equipment, will examine the effects of dusts and chemicals on employees' health. Based on the results, the necessary public health and safety conditions will be provided.

Transport company reviews activities

AMMAN (Petra) — The board of directors of the Iraqi-Jordanian Land Transport Company held a meeting on Wednesday during which members discussed the company's activities, an operation plan for this year as well as means of boosting the company's efficiency. The meeting was chaired by Ministry of Public Works Under Secretary Mu'taz Al Bilbeisi who is the chairman of the company's board of directors. It was attended by the company's vice-chairman of the board Ghassem Radwan who is the under-secretary of the Iraqi Transport Ministry.

First phase of Ramtha stadium completed

RAMTHA (Petra) — Ramtha Municipality on Wednesday took delivery of the first phase of a sports stadium which cost JD 220,000 to build, according to Ramtha Mayor Salim Qatish. He said that the second phase of the project entails building external and inner walls around the stadium which seats 10,000 spectators.

Army builds monument in Mafraq

MAFRAQ (Petra) — The Jordan Armed Forces in cooperation with Mafraq Municipality is currently building a monument near the northern entrance of Mafraq city. The project, financed and supervised by the Armed Forces, will be completed during this year.

Ministry organises tyre symposium

AMMAN (Petra) — The Ministry of Energy and Mineral Resources will organise a scientific symposium on the radial tyre's role in rationalisation of energy consumption early in April. Delivering lectures about radial tyres and their advantages, and basic information on tyres, will be a number of foreign experts and specialists.



Treat yourself to a travel comfort and traditional Turkish hospitality on board.

Fly Turkish Airlines to Ankara Istanbul and Izmir

Our New Schedule Effective From 30th March To 30th June. Twice a Week On Monday's and Thursday's as Follows.

For Further Information please Contact your IATA Travel agent or

TK 806	IST	TK 807
11.45 DEP	ARR. 20.35	
12.40 ARR	DEP. 19.40	
13.30 DEP	ARR. 16.30	
15.30 ARR	DEP. 16.20	

TURKISH AIRLINES

Jabal Amman - Third Circle
Al-Riyadh Center 8th floor
Tel. 659102 / 659112

TÜRK HAVA YOLLARI
TURKISH AIRLINES

Kuwait: An exemplary aid donor to Third World

By Rory Channing
Reuters

KUWAIT — Kuwait, which used its oil wealth to become a leading donor of aid to the Third World, has been forced to cut back on once substantial handouts.

Lower oil prices and state budget cuts are partly to blame, but so are problems faced by aid beneficiaries in putting together development projects.

Damaged grain silos bear witness to the last project funded by the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) in Lebanon, before it halted aid in 1986.

"To implement any project, to study a project in that country, there has to be stability. What is the use of starting something today and tomorrow it is destroyed?" said KFAED Director-

General Badr Al Homaidhi.

The fund is, however, moving to ease the flow of funds for some countries while helping the Kuwaiti economy by using local products and services in foreign projects, Homaidhi said.

For the Gulf Arab emirate of 1.7 million people, which gained independence from Britain in 1961, aid has evolved as a key foreign policy tool to forge friendly ties around the globe.

Latest figures from the Paris-based Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) ranked Kuwait as the most generous donor of official development aid in 1985.

But the 2.72 per cent of gross national product (GNP) Kuwait spent on aid, a larger share than any other donor nation, is far below the record 4.39 per cent ratio in 1982, when national con-

fers were flush with petrodollars.

On the political front, Kuwait has given big sums to the front-line states in the Arab struggle against Israel — Syria, Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO), as well as giving heavy financial backing to Iraq in its 6½ year-long war against Iran.

The KFAED, however, is strictly limited to project and infrastructure development and is believed to account for over half the country's total aid.

Started 25 years ago this month, it was the first development aid agency set up by an Arab or Third World country and, despite its name, has pumped funds into projects as far afield and diverse as crop drainage in Vietnam and cattle ranching in Uganda.

It extends concessionary loans

at interest rates of 0.5 to 6.0 per cent, repayable over periods of up to 50 years.

By the end of 1986, it had committed 1.4 billion dinars (\$4.75 billion) in aid to 66 countries, half for Arab states, almost one-third for Asia and nearly one-fifth for Africa.

With the oil boom over, its annual outlays crashed 75 per cent over three years from a peak 225 million dinars (\$810 million) in 1981-82, but rebounded again last year to around to \$320 million.

"I can say for sure, with the internal resources we have we can sustain aid for the next four or five years at the level of the past year," Homaidhi told Reuters.

Meantime, in an important new policy shift, the KFAED has started to relax borrowing criteria

for some countries whose budgetary and economic hardship prevent them meeting terms laid down in the past.

The changes also include a bid to help Kuwait's oil-reliant economy which economists say shrank about eight per cent in real terms, accounting for inflation, in 1985 and double that last year.

Wherever possible local products such as oil — which Homaidhi says can be a "huge component" — or electrical equipment, and service industries like contracting, are now given a part in projects funded by KFAED.

"We think we are obliged to do it nowadays because of the recession in Kuwait... We have to try to help the economy. But at the same time not affect the quality of the aid," he said.

In theory, KFAED extends Third World project assistance without strings. Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmed Al Sabah has said, however, such aid was governed by attitudes of recipients on Arab and especially Kuwaiti issues.

He noted that Nicaragua was blacklisted when it voted against a 1984 Kuwaiti proposal to the U.N. Security Council condemning attacks on Kuwaiti and Saudi Arabian vessels in the Gulf in the "tanker war" offshoot of the Iran-Iraq conflict.

Kuwait cut off KFAED loans to Egypt after Cairo's 1979 separate peace treaty with Israel, but has since resumed aid. As an example to other African states, it added Liberia to the boycott list when it restored ties with Israel in 1984.

Randa Habib's
Corner

'The weak made weaker'

TAREQ and Nadia are both civil servants. This young couple is expecting a baby in May. They have decided to send for a foreign helper who is due in Amman any time this month. Nadia can't quit her job because the salary of her husband would not be enough for the three of them. After calculating carefully her salary and the cost of bringing a foreign helper to take care of the baby they decided to have the helper.

But since Tareq and Nadia took their decision and sent for the helper, they suffered two setbacks. One cabinet decision reduced their combined income by 30 per cent, equivalent to JD 75 and a Ministry of Labour decision raised the fee for their expected helper's work permit to JD 150 from JD 50.

There are thousands of Tareqs and Nadias in Jordan who suffered badly from these two decisions. A high ranking official justifying these decisions asserted that those measures were taken because "women are better off at home taking care of their children." When I heard the remark I felt choked with rage. Aren't women more productive for the country when they work as lawyers, teachers, or in business and so on? Are we going back to the Middle Ages? In fact what made Jordan so special in the Arab World, was its progressive policies towards women. Jordanian women have achieved their rights to vote, to work, and to take responsible posts in the country.

Surely the government's need for more funds does not justify these additional taxes, and the social problem that it will create, especially among the "weaker sex."

Jailed Red Army Faction guerrilla hopes to return to normal life

In the 1960s and 1970s, leftist Red Army Faction guerrillas went to war against the establishment and the U.S. military in West Germany. Christof Wackernagel was one of them and he is now in prison. In an interview, he recently told an Associated Press correspondent he regretted the route he had chosen back then.

By Susan J. Smith
The Associated Press

BOCHUM, West Germany — Christof Wackernagel did not start out as a guerrilla. Before he joined West Germany's Red Army Faction and got into a shootout with police, he had been a promising young movie actor.

Now 35 years old with a decade of prison behind him, Wackernagel hopes West Germany will allow him and other convicted guerrillas to re-enter the society they once attacked.

While a prisoner, Wackernagel dissociated himself from the Red Army Faction in 1984 and said it should give up its violent attacks on West Germany and U.S. military, industrial and political targets.

"I am not only that man," Wackernagel insists, referring to his image as a former, just-wanted-guerrilla.

"I am an actor, I ran a printing press, I have written books. I am not only him," he said in an interview with the Associated Press.

In 1980, a Düsseldorf court convicted Wackernagel of membership in the Red Army Faction and of attempted murder in a 1977 shootout with police in Amsterdam, The Netherlands. He was sentenced to 15 years in prison, with credit granted for the three years he spent in custody awaiting trial.

Last September, West German authorities allowed him to leave prison for up to 15 hours a day to work as an assistant director at the Bochum City Theatre. The work is an extension of his early acting success.

Starting at age 15, Wackernagel had major roles in West German films including *Die Taetowierung* (tattooing) and *Engelchen*, (Little Angel), and also appeared in several made-for-television movies.

Claus Peymann, the former director of the Bochum Theatre, came forward last year to tell authorities Wackernagel still had talent, had reformed in prison and should be given a second chance.

But the idea received a mixed reception in West Germany, where the Red Army Faction continues to kill. One of its victims, Siemens electronics company executive Karl-Heinz Beckurts, was slain July 9, a week before the announcement of Wackernagel's new job in Bochum.

West German newspapers carried such headlines as "terrorist to be assistant director." The mayor of Bochum was threatened by anonymous callers who demanded that he block the appointment.

"The media wrote more about me than the new theatre director," Wackernagel said during the interview in his small office at the Bochum playhouse.

The son of a theatre director and a West German actress, Wackernagel said his conversion to terrorism was gradual.

In the late 1960s, he opposed the Vietnam war and what students protesters charged was the imperialism of the United States and its allies, including West Germany.

The Red Army Faction had its roots in those protests. The founders got started by setting a fire in a Frankfurt department store in 1968 and went on to bomb businesses, rob banks, kill U.S. soldiers and kidnap and kill prominent members of the West German establishment.

In the early 1970s, Wackernagel moved into a Stuttgart commune and set up an alternative

printing press. But he grew dissatisfied after a few years.

The commune was the first utopia that shattered," he said. "It was a great disappointment to find out that one can't build an island apart from society."

He said he went underground with the Red Army Faction in 1977 to discover "whether you can find freedom if you completely break with society."

Within a few weeks he and another RAF member, Gert Schneider, were arrested following a shootout with the Amsterdam police. Three policemen, Schneider and Wackernagel were wounded.

"I was lucky I was caught so soon, so there weren't other crimes added to my name," Wackernagel says. Fifteen of the 40 or so Red Army Faction guerrillas now in West German prisons are serving life sentences.

In 1981, a hunger strike by convicted guerrillas led to better prison conditions for some of them. Wackernagel and Schneider were allowed to live in the same prison and see each other three times a week.

"That was the start of our critical thinking," Wackernagel said. "Together, we could examine whether we had done anything wrong."

Starting at age 15, Wackernagel had major roles in West German films including *Die Taetowierung* (tattooing) and *Engelchen*, (Little Angel), and also appeared in several made-for-television movies.

They started to read the works of Karl Marx, Vladimir Ilyich Lenin and others "on which our fight was allegedly based," he said. "The more we read, the more difficult it became to justify our armed struggle. It just didn't work."

In 1984, Wackernagel and Schneider wrote to newspapers saying the Red Army Faction should stop its violence and seek an amnesty for convicted members. The results disappointed them.

"On the one side, we were called deserters (by the Red Army Faction)," he said. "On the other side, even people who had been leftist sympathisers in the 1960s and 1970s did not want to talk about an amnesty."

Wackernagel said he had detected little effort at understanding by either the guerrillas or society. He maintained that if such rigidity continues, so will the cycles of violence and harsh sentences.

In November, Wackernagel will have served two-thirds of his sentence, making him eligible for release.

While in jail, he has published two books of short stories that sold well. He is working on a third volume, and plans to continue acting.

Still, he realises his transition to everyday life won't be easy. In the Bochum Theatre's current production, *Trümmern in der Nacht* (Debris in the Night) by Bertolt Brecht, Wackernagel was given the part of a 1918 German revolutionary.

The script called for him to carry a carbine across the stage. "There was a big fuss about it," Wackernagel said. His part was re-written to exclude the gun.

Deranged homeless roam Washington streets

By David Brough
Reuters

WASHINGTON — Thousands of mentally ill people roam the streets of Washington, some lured to the capital and the White House gates in hopes of discussing a grievance with the president, welfare officials say.

Several virtually camp out in Lafayette park across from the U.S. executive mansion — although police have been enforcing anti-loitering laws more strictly of late — and one woman is said to have slept there for the past five years.

Welfare officials estimate the Washington area's derelict population ranges from 5,000 to 15,000 at any given time and that at least half are mentally ill.

The problem afflicts many U.S. cities, although Washington gets most of the publicity, and mental health experts date much of it to the 1970s when courts placed strict limitations on involuntary commitments to mental institutions.

Now, the mentally ill in many U.S. states cannot be confined for treatment against their will unless they are suicidal, threaten others or are in dire medical danger.

The result, some social workers say, is an overflow of deranged "street people" who must look after themselves.

The government and charities provide some day care and overnight shelters, but critics say it is not nearly enough.

"There are some very good programmes around, but across the spectrum of problems we haven't even approached beginning to deal with the complex issue of the mentally ill homeless," said Jim Hillman, director of shelter and food services of Catholic Charities in the Washington area.

The Democrats have repeatedly accused Reagan and his republican administration of being ins-



sensitive to the plight of the poor in general, and showing this in their continuing drive to cut spending on social welfare programs.

Reagan rejects this, saying he has always provided enough funds to maintain a "social safety net" for the needy, but the high visibility of shabby derelicts in central Washington keeps the homeless issue in the limelight.

A 1986 television film dramatized the efforts of Washington's best known crusader for the homeless, Nitch Snyder, who once forced Reagan to release federal funds for a public shelter by going on hunger strike.

Celebrities including the star of that film, Martin Sheen, and members of Congress recently

spent a night on the streets to publicize their appeal for more federal funds for shelters.

Two days later the House of Representatives passed a bill proposing an extra \$725 million to be spent to feed, house and provide medical care for homeless across the country.

Reagan says the mentally ill homeless often resist help because they fear it is a trick to put them back in custody.

"In many instances, having walked away from an institution, they turn away from any efforts of help because they feel that it might get them back institutionalized," he said in a news conference last year.

Snyder is Reagan's sternest critic on the issue of government aid

for the homeless, but he makes a similar point. He told Reuters: "Many risk their lives in the cold weather, rather than go to hospital."

In Washington, shelters are run by welfare groups such as the Catholic Charities and Snyder's Community for Creative Non-Violence (CCNV).

Many of those who use the shelters suffer from alcoholism, drug addiction or both, as well as psychotic illness, and cannot support themselves.

"The trauma and stress people live with on the street is itself a form of mental illness," said the Reverend Jack Pfannenstiel, who has run shelters for Catholic Charities.

Many wander streets by day, rummaging through dustbins and begging, spend cold nights stretched on kerbside steam-grates or huddled in blankets outside underground train stops, to catch the warmth from the escalator motors.

Pfannenstiel says some paranoid street people come to Washington because it is the home of the Central Intelligence Agency. They believe agents have been following them and they want to find out why.

"They want to see the president because (they think) he's in charge of the CIA," he told Reuters.

Mary Ellen Hombs, an official of the CCNV, said the city's three CCNV shelters were overcrowded but never turned away people who had nowhere to sleep.

Shelter workers say the problem could be relieved considerably if psychiatric hospitals had more out-patient services or follow-up care.

They say there is also great need — but no money — for "group homes" for these people, many of whom have nowhere to go when the shelters turn them out in the morning.

It's because large numbers of people remain unmarried and the better educated ones who are married have fewer than two children, that the fertility rate for the population is one the decline.

He said the move towards a three-child family was "so that those who are married can make up for those who are not, or who are under-producing."

"We have to move from a two-child family to a three-child family for the sake of our future," he told Singapore's 2.6 million population, of whom more than 70 per cent are Chinese.

Goh acknowledged that those who had themselves sterilised af-

Singaporeans told to go forth and multiply

By Jose Katigbak
Reuters

SINGAPORE — After two decades of hammering home the message "two is enough" the Singapore government has reversed its population policy and is telling people to go forth and multiply.

"Have three, and more if you can afford it," is the new commandment from on top. And to induce couples to do something in that direction, the government of Prime Minister Lee Kuan Yew is dangling financial and other inducements which it hopes they will find difficult to resist.

These include tax rebates and child care centre subsidies.

Because of Singapore's declining birth rate, two is no longer enough and officials fear the consequences for the island state unless they change gear.

They say that if the population continues to shrink there will not be enough males to defend Singapore and young women might have to be called up to maintain a credible military force.

There would also be a decline in the labour force, with fewer workers having in support a growing number of old people.

According to government statistics, the average family size has fallen from slightly more than six children in the late 1950s to the present 1.5.

Announcing the new policy, first deputy prime minister Goh Chok Tong said it was not intended, as some had suggested, to ensure Chinese demographic and political dominance. It was aimed at all who were "underperforming" in reproductive terms, he said.

"It's because large numbers of people remain unmarried and the better educated ones who are married have fewer than two children, that the fertility rate for the population is one the decline."

He said the move towards a three-child family was "so that those who are married can make up for those who are not, or who are under-producing."

"We have to move from a two-child family to a three-child family for the sake of our future," he told Singapore's 2.6 million population, of whom more than 70 per cent are Chinese.

Goh acknowledged that those who had themselves sterilised af-

ter having two children under the old stricture were not likely to be happy with the change of direction.

"I think for this group, the moment has passed," he said. "What else can we do?"

A health ministry spokeswoman told Reuters that since 1980 about 36,000 women had been sterilised and 2,700 men underwent vasectomies.

Doctor Koh Lam Son, an obstetrician and government back-bench member of parliament, said the state should provide facilities for people who have been sterilised but now wanted to have children.

"Action must be taken if there is indeed a sizeable group who are unable to reproduce now because they opted for permanent birth control methods," he said in a newspaper interview before the new policy was announced.

Kept intact in the new policy is a sterilisation incentive scheme meant to help poor families. Under this scheme, introduced in 1984, women from low-education, low-income families receive \$10,000 (U.S.\$5,000) towards buying a government flat if they opt for sterilisation after the birth of their first or second child.

Resentment is likely to be vocal among those who were discouraged from having more children. Disincentive measures under the old policy included higher hospital charges for women in delivery, curtailment of choice of schools for their offspring and restriction of maternity leave to two children.

"I think people in my age group have reason to be angry," a 38-year-old company director said in a newspaper interview published before the new policy was announced.

"You get people to ... stop at two. Now you say: 'have three or more.' It's not a buy-and-sell decision. You make certain decisions, take certain irreversible steps when you decide your family size," said the man.

Some people in their late twenties and early thirties say they have got too used to the idea of having small families to change now. In effect, they fear a change in their lifestyle.

A career woman with an 11-month-old son said: "There's no way they can make me have another one."

The miniskirt makes a comeback in Milan show

By Daniela Petroff
The Associated Press

MILAN, Italy — The winter of 1987-88 promises to be one of the shortest in decades — when it comes to hemlines, that is.

The Italian designers now showing their ready-to-wear fall and winter collections are offering the tiniest skirts seen on the runway since Mary Quant of London's Carnaby Street introduced the "mini" in the 1960s.

Midway through the fashion

week, every designer who has shown so far on the Milan runway has pulled hemlines at least several inches above the knee.

Some skirts have been tight, others loose or even petticoated. But the "mini" prize goes to Gianni Versace with a waist-to-thigh skirt less than a foot in length.

Versace's little hipbands were worn under masculine-tailored, fitted jackets of mid-hip length, some of which were longer than the skirt itself.

The skirts were either tiered, ribbed or sheered, making them cling tightly around their wearers' posterior.

At the halfway point of his Sunday evening show, Versace, in a seeming concession to the dictates of modesty, began sticking panels reminiscent of Indian saris on his mini-outfits. But this innovation only enhanced the skirts' seductive allure by creating a peek-a-boo effect.

Some of the more full-figured models had a hard time squeezing

into the mini-outfits.

If Versace skimmed on the skirt, he made up for it in his shoulders. He stuffed dresses and jackets alike with molded pieces of foam rubber the size of milk cartons.

Versace may have pushed the "mini-look" to extremes. But other designers also opted for the "minimal" fashion, perhaps in a bid to lure buyers facing steadily rising prices with weakened dollars.

JORDAN MARKET PLACE

Holiday Inn
THE HOLIDAY INN
FOR IMPORTED AMERICAN STEAKS
For Reservation call: 662100

ZORFU GREEK TAVERNA
The First and Only Greek Restaurant in Jordan
TODAY AND EVERY NIGHT
Live Music
ZORBA THE GREEK
LOCATED: JABAL AMMAN 2ND FLOOR
OPP FRENCH LOAF
TEL 641585 NO COVER CHARGE

RESTAURANT CHINA
The first & best Chinese Restaurant in Jordan
1st Circle, Jabal Amman, near Aliyah Girls School
Take away is available
Open daily 12:00-3:30 p.m.
6:30-Midnight
Tel. 638968

慕堂餐廳 MANDARIN Chinese Restaurant
The only typical Chinese cuisine in Amman.
Chinese Flaming pot is available
Take away available
Open daily 12:00-15:30 18:00-23:30
Wadi Sagra Road - near Traffic Bridge
Amman, Jordan
Tel: 661922

CHINESE RESTAURANT TAIWAN TOURISMO
Authentic Chinese Food
Korean Bar-B-Q
Charcoal Flaming Pot
Take-away service
Open daily Noon - 3:30 p.m. & 6:30 p.m. - midnight
Location: Near 3rd Circle opposite Akliah Hospital
Tel: 641093

CHEN'S CHINESE RESTAURANT
Mecca Street, Yarmouk Engineers' Housing Estate, near Kilo Supermarket
Mongolian Barbecue for lunch and dinner Friday
Tel: 818214
Come and taste our specialties
Open daily 12:00 - 3:30 p.m.
6:30 - Midnight

The Ideal Residence for Expatriates & Businessmen
DAROTEL
Tel: 668193 - Telex 23888 DAROTL
Shmeisani - Amman
Luxuriously furnished studio apartments
To satisfy Good Taste
HOTEL * APARTOTEL * RESTAURANT

EVERY DAY
PEOPLE WHO NEED MAINTENANCE SERVICES
CALL US!
Electrolux
P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN
Tel. 604671

CROWN INTERNATIONAL ESTABLISHMENT
packing, shipping, forwarding, international moving, storage, clearing, door-to-door service
Agents all over the world
Tel: 664090, 660852
The 2222 222222 J.O.
Cable: Huanhuan
P.O. Box 85442
AMMAN JORDAN

SHAKHSHIR Rent A Car
25% Discount
1. Short and long terms
2. Full insurance
3. Automatic and Air-condition cars
4. Always new cars with good service
Middle East Hotel
Tel: 668758

ARAMEX AIR CARGO
YES...
FOR ALL YOUR SHIPMENTS BY AIR TO/FROM JORDAN, WE CAN HELP YOU IF YOU GIVE US A CALL
ARAMEX AIR CARGO
Office: Dabul Newspaper St.
Tel. 660578, Telex 231222/2311 J.O.

Finland's Alen takes early lead in Portuguese Rally

MONTEJUNTO, Portugal (R) — Finland's Markku Alen, driving a Lancia Delta, was the early leader of the Portuguese Motor Rally Wednesday after winning the second special stage of the first leg.

Alen, four times winner of the Portuguese event, completed the 21.5 kilometre (km) first special stage in the Estoril Autodrome and the second 9.6 km stage over asphalt at Montejunto in 11 minutes 49 seconds.

France's Jean Ragnotti, in a Renault Turbo, recorded the same time as Alen, but the Finn led because he had been two seconds faster at Montejunto. Italy's Massimo Biasion, driving a Lancia, was third six seconds behind.

Reigning world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland was in fifth place in his Lancia after the second special stage behind Spa-

niard Carlos Sainz's Ford Sierra. Sainz won the first special stage which consisted of four laps of the Estoril Autodrome outside Lisbon.

The 678 km first leg of the 2,087 km rally was due to end late Wednesday night in the northern coastal town of Povoá de Varzim.

Standings after 2 special stages

1. Markku Alen (Finland) Lancia Delta, 11 min. 49 sec
2. Jean Ragnotti (France) Renault 11 Turbo, same time
3. Massimo Biasion (Italy) Lancia Delta, 6 sec behind
4. Carlos Sainz (Spain) Ford Sierra, 0:08
5. Juha Kankkunen (Finland) Lancia Delta, 0:10
6. Kenneth Eriksson (Sweden) VW Golf, 0:15
7. Ingvar Carlsson (Sweden) Mazda 323, 0:19
8. Erwin Weber (West Germany) VW Golf, 0:21
9. Timm Salonen (Finland) Mazda 323, 0:28
10. Joaquim Santos (Portugal) Ford Sierra, same time

Atlanta downs San Antonio in OT

SAN ANTONIO (AP) — Dominique Wilkins scored 37 points in the Atlanta Hawks' 113-106 overtime victory over the Spurs, the Hawks first win in San Antonio since the 1981-82 season of the National Basketball Association.

Atlanta led by as many as 16 points in the third period, but trailed 101-99 late in regulation until Wilkins hit a short jumper with five seconds left, forcing the extra period.

Kevin Willis had 24 points and 14 rebounds for Atlanta.

In other NBA games Tuesday night, it was New Jersey 121, Washington 79; Philadelphia 100, Cleveland 91; Detroit 116, New York 93; Seattle 136, Houston 127, in double overtime; Los Angeles Lakers 143, Denver 107; and Golden State 125, Sacramento 114.

In New York, Bill Laimbeer had 20 points and 19 rebounds as the Detroit Pistons maintained their slim lead over Atlanta with

an easy 116-93 victory in New York. The Knicks 26 points from Patrick Ewing and 21 from Kenny Walker. Vinnie Johnson led the Pistons with 21 points.

In Los Angeles, the Lakers won their fifth straight as James Worthy scored all 23 of his points in the first three quarters and Magic Johnson collected a season-high 20 assists against visiting Denver.

Kareem Abdul Jabbar had 22

points and A.C. Green 21. Alex English had 25 and Blair Rasmussen 22 points for the Nuggets.

In New Jersey, the Nets won by its biggest margin ever as Mike Gminski had 30 points and 14 rebounds and Buck Williams 15 points and 16 rebounds against Washington, winning 121-79.

The Nets' previous largest margin of victory in an NBA game was a 137-96 win over Utah in 1980.

Peking to Paris rally begins return

PEKING (R) — Seventeen light planes took off from Peking for Paris on the return leg of the world's longest air rally.

They arrived in the Chinese capital five days ago at the end of a week-long race across Europe and Asia won by French pilot Raymond Michel and his crew flying a WA421 Wassmer, the smallest and slowest aircraft in

the competition. The planes, most of them single-engine, will take a longer route back to Paris for a separate \$25,000 first prize, decided according to a handicap system.

They will make compulsory stops in Hong Kong, Singapore, Bombay, Amman and Rome, before reaching the scheduled finish on March 27, organising official Claude Jaubert of the Aero Club of France said Wednesday.

A group of European companies are sponsoring the Paris-Peking-Paris rally, but the fliers have also had to find their own financing for part of the costs of the trip, estimated at between \$45,000 and \$100,000 per plane.

Most of the aircraft plan refuelling stops in Canton, south-east China, before reaching Hong Kong.

Liverpool extends lead in England on Rush's goal

LONDON (AP) — Ian Rush bagged his 31st goal of the season to give Liverpool a 1-0 victory over Arsenal and extend the English soccer champion's lead in the standings to six points.

Rush, who is due to join Italy's Juventus at the end of the season, netted for the first time in five games as Liverpool, which has won the title eight times in the last 11 seasons, took a significant step towards retaining the championships.

Third-placed Arsenal, which meets Liverpool in the final of the Littlewoods Cup at Wembley April 10, now is seven points adrift of the champion with a game in hand. Everton, Liverpool's Merseyside neighbor, lies in second place, six points behind and also with one more game to play.

Some 47,000 fans packed Arsenal's Highbury Stadium to see Rush strike in the 20th minute against the injury-hit home side.

The Welsh international scored from six metres, after Paul Walsh had flicked on a corner by Craig Johnston.

Arsenal's biggest crowd of the season felt their team was denied a 36th-minute equaliser by referee Vic Callow.

The north London side claimed that a shot from striker Niall Quinn hit the post and crossed the line before Liverpool goalkeeper Bruce Grobbelaar scooped the ball away. Arsenal also claimed a penalty nine minutes later when Viv Anderson was charged down by Steve McMahon.

Arsenal's manager, George Graham, said his side was unlucky not to have had at least one penalty. But he paid tribute to Liverpool.

"When you give Liverpool a goal start they are always going to



Ian Rush

be difficult. I was pleased with our effort and performance but we didn't create enough chances.

"It's a very good learning process for our young forwards and young midfield players. They will have learned a lot from that — how to defend without ever panicking and always be a danger on the break. That's Liverpool — they are past masters at it," Graham said.

Liverpool's player-manager, Kenny Dalglish, was unconcerned that his team is the new title favourite.

"People can say what they want. We know what we want to do, but we try to keep ourselves to ourselves and ignore everything else," he said.

"The performance got us three points and the way everybody committed themselves was a credit to themselves and the club."

Canadian dazzles crowd at world skating tourney

CINCINNATI (AP) — Canadian Brian Orser used a dazzling display of footwork and spins to win the short programme at the World Figure Skating Championships.

The 25-year-old Orser remained third overall behind Alexander Fadeev of the Soviet Union and American Brian Boitano. Both Orser and Boitano, the defending champion, are considered stronger freestyle skaters than Fadeev, the 1985 world champion.

Fadeev won the compulsory and was third in the short programme. Boitano was second in both.

The three-way battle for the men's championship will conclude Thursday night with the free skate, worth 50 per cent of the total.

"I knew before I went out there it would be good," said Orser, the runner-up in the last three world championships as well as the '84 Olympics.

Orser skated just before Boitano and Fadeev and his series of spins, jumps and particularly his connecting footwork was spectacular. He earned seven 5.9s out of a possible 6.0 for technical merit from the nine judges, and six 5.9s for artistic impression. He also earned a standing ovation from the crowd of 11,369, which included many Canadians waving the red-and-white maple leaf flag.

Boitano completed his programme, set to country and western music, just as cleanly. The difference was in the choreography.

Karpov, Sokolov draw 7th game

LINARES, Spain (R) — Anatoly Karpov and Andrei Sokolov of the Soviet Union agreed to a draw in the seventh game of the World Chess Championship eliminator after 41 moves.

Sokolov, who played white, requested the draw after four hours and 44 minutes play.

Karpov, who used a Caro Kann defence, leads the series by 3.5 points to 2.5.

Chess experts said the two grand masters reached a drawn position after the 30th move with one rook and four pawns each on the board.

Karpov was seen as holding a winning position in the resumption of the adjourned sixth game, which would give him a two-point lead.

The winner of the month-long battle earns the right to challenge Garry Kasparov for the World Chess Championship.

U.S. hurdler out of British meet

COSFORD, England (AP) — Tomie Campbell, world indoor champion over 60 metres hurdles, has pulled out of the United States' team for Friday's sixth annual Kodak Classic track and field meet against Britain, organisers said.

In a series of changes announced by the organisers, Campbell and Chris Clark will be replaced in the U.S. team by Reggie Davis and Albert Lane, while, in the 200 metres, James Butler and Albert Robinson will be replaced by Olympic bronze medalist Thomas Jefferson and Brady Crain.

Middle-distance runner Paul Harnsworth leads the English team.

Harnsworth will run in the 400 metres, the event in which he finished fifth at last weekend's World Indoor Championships in Indianapolis.

Sebastian Coe, a two-time Olympic champion, earlier announced he would run for England in the 3,000. It is expected to be Coe's only indoor appearance of the season.

Others on the English squad for the meet at Cosford Royal Air Force Base include sprinters Ernie Obeng and Martin Waldron in the 60 and Donovan Reid in the 200; Tony Morrell and Peter Elliott in the 1,000; John Gladwin and Adrian Passey in the mile; and Hugh Teape and Andrew in the 60-metre hurdles.

THE Daily Crossword by Daniel F. Foley

ACROSS	DOWN
1 Furrows	1 Banish
2 Bar legally	2 Boiled
3 Court	3 Can
4 evidence	4 Relating to a
5 E. Ger. city	5 sad noise
6 Treat as a	6 Sp. conqueror
7 Timetable	7 Separately
8 abet	8 Refines ore
9 Gemstone	9 Exultant
10 Turb	10 Ministers
11 Musical pipe	11 Charlotte
12 List of	12 of TV
13 politicians	13 With intensity
14 Milk part	14 Sketched
15 Spit	15 Follows
16 Pipe joint	16 Simply
17 Jungle	17 30 Horse mishap
18 Steps	18 Corrected
19 Devil Sp.	19 Uninteresting
20 Cut of meat	
21 Dad a.g.	
22 Vendor	
23 Church official	
24 Deserter	
25 Passover	
26 Servile	
27 Calla lily	
28 For one	
29 Isacult	
30 Split	
31 Exactly	
32 Diplomatic	
33 Half a	
34 semitic	
35 Detail	
36 Bouquet maker	
37 Blotted out	
38 Certain	
39 channels	
40 Religious	
41 council	
42 Did sums	
43 Night noise	
44 mowers	
45 Bag	
46 Vienna's	
47 land: abbr.	
48 Building	
49 Constructed	
50 Hints noisily	
51 Banish	
52 Boiled	
53 Can	
54 Relating to a	
55 sad noise	
56 Sp. conqueror	
57 Separately	
58 Refines ore	
59 Exultant	
60 Ministers	
61 Charlotte	
62 of TV	
63 With intensity	
64 Sketched	
65 Follows	
66 Simply	
67 30 Horse mishap	
68 Corrected	
69 Uninteresting	

Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

PAICY SCALP ALISO
ADIA LORIER LIDIN
COMPREHENSIVE PAUL
AISEP EBP CIMPVY
EAGLEHILL TITIE
BOSCHAL DERRAL
PAID AIRTIME DIBI
ANIMATE MARTINIA
FOOD GARDIOPY SPAR
STUD REAVISIT
POPEYE HAM MOA
AISED COMELINESS
TREET ALLINE TIRIN
RIEHO YARDIS STIALY

43 Likely 51 Yugoslav
44 Lessee 52 Sventorian
47 idled 53 Crew
48 Roman states-
man 57 Free

British minister says England won't seize fans' passports

LONDON (AP) — Britain's sports minister ruled out Wednesday any chance of the government seizing passports of soccer fans who cause trouble overseas.

The statement by Minister Richard Tracey followed a decision by UEFA, the governing body of European soccer, to keep English clubs out of cup competition on the continent for at least another year.

The ban was imposed almost two years ago after 39 people died in clashes between English and Italian fans at the European Champions Cup final at Brussels. Most of the victims were supporters of the Italian Club Juventus.

In rejecting pleas from English soccer officials for at least a limited lifting of the ban next season, UEFA officials said that the British government had not done enough to curb violence by English fans abroad. Fighting and vandalism involving English fans have occurred in Sweden, the

Netherlands and Spain this season.

But in an interview with BBC Radio, Tracey said the government had no plans to seize passports of the troublemakers, one move that has been suggested by UEFA and other soccer governing bodies.

"The government will not take away passports, if that is what UEFA is asking for," Tracey said. "This has been agreed by all parties in the House of Commons."

He said that as a rule, passports were only taken away when people had been charged with an offence and released on bail.

"In any other case it is believed that this would be an infringement of civil rights," the sports minister said. He also said that the Treaty of Rome, signed by Britain and other members of the Common Market, guarantees free movement for citizens among European countries.

Aspiring German tennis players want to emulate success of Becker and Graf

SCOTTSDALE, Arizona (R) — Young West Germans may be about to do to women's tennis what the Swedes have already done to the men's circuit.

Five West German women are ranked in the top 50 in the women's rankings and 10 are in the top 100, approaching the Swedes' strong showing on the men's side, where nine Swedes are currently in the top 50.

In the wake of Steffi Graf's defeat of both Martina Navratilova and Chris Evert Lloyd in a Florida tournament last week, West German women players are eager to join their countrywoman at the top.

Graf rose to number two in the world for the first time last week prior to her Florida victories.

There were six additional West Germans playing alongside Graf last week, including 18-year-old Silke Meier, who reached the last 16.

Four of the lesser-known West Germans are competing in the \$75,000 Arizona Women's Championships this week, three of whom are still teenagers.

Claudia Porwik, aged 18 and ranked 100, won her first-round match, defeating unseeded Swiss player Eva Krapf 6-1, 7-6. Porwik reached the semifinals in the same tournament last year after coming through the qualifying.

World number one Martina Navratilova predicted good things to come for Porwik after defeating her last year in the third round of the French Open, praising the West German's athletic ability, her intelligence and her desire to win.

Wilfried Probst, 17, also won a first-round match, defeating 15-

year-old American junior Shira Gafni, who received a wild card, 6-1, 6-1.

Probst trains with Porwik and Sabine Hak under a team system organised by the German Tennis Federation.

Although Graf and countryman Boris Becker, also ranked two in the world, have thrown the spotlight on West Germany as an emerging tennis nation, Probst feels they are simply the first of many stars who will soon reach the top.

"It's not just Graf and Becker," Probst said. "There are a lot of players coming behind."

Isabel Cueto, 18 and ranked 90, defeated Argentine veteran Adriana Villagran 6-3, 6-7, 6-4 in the first round.

Unlike her countrywomen, Cueto, whose father is from Bolivia, has opted to work outside the German federation.

"If you work with the federation everything is paid for and that's great," Cueto said. "But you have to live far from home all week. You can only go home at weekends. I have to stay with my family when I'm not on the tour."

Cueto said she did not miss the team atmosphere. "There aren't any good friendships in tennis," Cueto said. "You never get close because you have to play against each other."

Cueto thinks the strength of women's tennis in Germany is nothing new. "There have always been good women players there," Cueto said, "but I think you will see Becker inspire a lot more men players, just like Bjorn Borg did in Sweden."

Heinz Gildemeister, a Chilean of German descent whose wife

Larra is on the professional tour, coaches some of the German girls when they travel to the United States.

The German federation was authorised Gildemeister, who speaks fluent German, to work with several of the players in the Arizona event, including Porwik and Probst.

"The Germans are very organised," Gildemeister said. "They have everything. Last week in Key Biscayne they even sent their own masseur over to work on the players."

Gildemeister thinks the combination of good organisation, a team system and the development of an all-court game are the factors that will put German players in front in the near future.

"At 18 of 19 it's hard to be well-disciplined," Gildemeister said. "The German system gives them a chance to have good practices and there is always someone in the stands for them."

Gildemeister watched Probst defeat Gafni and observed the shortcomings of the American's style.

"All the juniors here play the same way," Gildemeister said. "They have a one-handed forehand, two-handed backhand and they push the ball from the baseline."

"But tennis is more aggressive now. The Europeans have a better all-court game."

Andrea Betzner, 20, is the fourth West German in Scottsdale. Betzner, who has seen only limited success on the tour so far, lost 6-3, 6-2, to 17-year-old American Niurka Sodupe in another first-round match Tuesday.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Ministry of Planning announces the availability of short-term training opportunities in the U.S. for private sector personnel in a wide range of courses including General Management, Financial Management, Accountancy, Marketing, Production, Quality Control, Business Law, Personnel Administration, and/or other subjects related to the promotion and strengthening of Jordan's private sector with emphasis on manufacturing, agribusiness and management related services. Priority will be given to training which is consistent with the Jordan's five-year plan objective of increasing the role of the private sector in Jordan's development process, e.g., increasing exports, creating jobs, and improving productivity and competitiveness.

Training is of a practical and short term nature, i.e., not to exceed 6 months, and may be with a wide variety of U.S. institutions and companies. This programme is being implemented in cooperation with the U.S. Agency for International Development.

Applicants must be Jordanian citizens, have adequate proficiency in the English language, and be willing to participate in the cost of training through their own resources or those of their employers. Women are encouraged to participate in programme. Individuals and private sector institutions and companies interested in these training opportunities may write in English to the Ministry of Planning, Training Section, P.O. Box 555, Amman, Jordan.

FURNISHED FLATS FOR RENT

Fully-furnished one bedroom and two bedroom flats, w/w carpet, colour T.V., central heating, telephone. Two locations, Jabal Amman, near Fifth Circle and Abdali area.

Phone: 673768, 672842 after 2 p.m.

HOME MAINTENANCE SERVICES

Fast * Efficient * Reliable

Specialist Repairs to:

- * Household Appliances
- * Electrical Systems
- * Central Heating
- * Plumbing
- * Miscellaneous

Carried Out By Qualified & Experienced Staff Who Care

HAVING TRIED US YOU'LL RECOMMEND US.

Electrolux

ELECTROLUX JORDAN TRADING Co Ltd
P.O. Box 925229 AMMAN

Tel. 604671

Cinema Tel: 677420

CONCORD

TOP GUN

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 625153

RAINBOW

WEIRD SCIENCE

Performances 3:15, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 675373

OPERA

BODY ROCK

Performances 3:30, 6:15, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 677420

PLAZA

NO SMALL AFFAIR

Performances 3:30, 6:00, 8:30, 10:30

Cinema Tel: 622198

RAGHADAN

MY LUCKY STARS

Performances 12:15, 3:00, 5:00, 9:45

مكتبة

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets on Wednesday.

One sterling	1.5950/60	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	1.3333/38	Canadian dollar
	1.8573/38	West German marks
	2.0978/88	Dutch guilders
	1.5590/5600	Swiss francs
	38.44/47	Belgian francs
	6.1790/182	French francs
	1319/1320	Italian lire
	153.55/65	Japanese yen
	6.4630/80	Swedish crowns
	6.9720/70	Norwegian kroner
	6.9800/50	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	406.90/407.40	U.S. dollars

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities showed an easier bias in late trading after Wall Street lost an early 11-point gain on news the U.S. fourth quarter balance of payments trade deficit was a record \$38.7 billion.

Shares moved ahead during the morning with the market extending Tuesday's gains on continuing optimism about next week's U.K. budget, hopes of a further decline in domestic interest rates, strong sterling and a firmer gilt market. However, prices tended to ease around mid-session as a fairly large sell programme made its presence felt. There was also widespread, although relatively light, retail profit-taking.

Dealers said a higher-than-expected annual profit by BTR helped slow the midday decline. The company reported 1982 pretax earnings of £505 million compared with £362 million previous year and market forecasts of around £480 million.

BTR shares stood 2p easier in late trading at 340 after rising to 349 in the wake of the results.

Volume tended to be fairly thin which made for exaggerated movements in many issues.

YOUR DAILY Horoscope

from the Carroll Righter Institute

FORECAST FOR THURSDAY, MAR. 12, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: You can make some definite plans now and extend your interests and activities toward more exciting goals. Some older persons can be helpful to you.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Contact persons you have known for some time and ask for suggestions on how to make greater progress.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) Rely on your business experience to understand what is best to do for greater success in the future.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Handle whatever is necessary to have greater efficiency with your associates and get ahead faster.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Plan how to get more for the work you do. One who is very successful can give you fine ideas.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Get into activities that give you relief from building tension. Tonight make necessary adjustments with your mate.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be together quietly with your mate and come to a true meeting of the minds to insure a calm future.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) A loyal pal can now give you the support you need, so be willing to accept. You can sidestep trouble for now.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) If you have a home idea in mind for adding to your possessions, it is wise to discuss it with a hewer first.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You have many fine ideas for increasing success and can get your talents before others easily now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Have a confidential conversation with one in business. Tell the person you love of your deep devotion.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) It's a good day to meet with fine friends and loyal partners and devise a new plan that will be beneficial to all.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Put out your best efforts and you can get fine credit from influential people. Get your efforts into the public eye.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will accomplish wonders just by the expediency of a little praise, a pet on the neck or even a smile of appreciation, so be sure to give the finest education possible that will prepare him, or her, for important work. A wonderful mind here and a true romantic.

FORECAST FOR FRIDAY, MARCH 13, 1987

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Today can bring a discussion which could turn into an argument, but this influence soon passes and you find you are able to organize your inspirations.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) It's not a good time for answering an important letter. Get out into the business world and make fine impressions on others.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may argue over a financial matter with another, but later you can have a good time if you want to.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) You could get into trouble with a friend, but this soon blows over. Tonight have guests into your home.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to Jul. 21) Don't be angry if a friend cannot enjoy a pleasure with you. Don't try to solve a problem with your mate.

LEO (Jul. 22 to Aug. 21) Plan which changes you want to make in your surroundings. Set up a course for the future that brings greater success.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Be careful you do not change your old friends for new ones or you could later regret it. Pursue personal goals now.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Don't fight with a partner over a change of systems. Private affairs can later be solved to your satisfaction.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) You may be annoyed because you have to revise some work you have done. Later have fun with your friends.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Do not send out a missive that could get you in trouble. Get into civic work that can benefit you.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Be tactful in handling some outside affair. Contact those who have the information you need.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Don't argue about an obligation. Study what your mate needs the most and try to please this person.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) Control your temper and don't pick on others. Study your agreements and try to complete those still unfinished.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY ... he, or she, will make a friend and then go on to another, so be sure to teach this one to be more devoted and steadfast. Upon reaching adulthood your progeny will be very neat and precise in whatever is tackled and get excellent results. One who can be very enterprising.

IMF warns Israel against wage rises

TEL AVIV (R) — The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has warned Israel that continued rapid wage rises could undo efforts to control hyperinflation, officials said Wednesday.

"Continued rapid rise in wages would threaten the progress in reducing inflation and the present level of employment," the IMF said, in an interim report. It held up Argentina and Brazil as examples of the perils awaiting countries who did not follow up on stabilization programmes.

The report echoed warnings last week by Bank of Israel Governor Michael Bruno and the private Bank Hapoalim that higher wages, government overspend-

ing and a consumer boom were rekindling inflation.

The IMF study said: "Though wage developments and the acceleration of inflation are worrisome, there is still time to put the stabilisation programme back on track."

The warning comes ahead of Israel's key public sector wage negotiations next month.

Bank Hapoalim chief economist Petahia Bar-Shavit told Reuters that wages, after being adjusted for inflation, rose about 10 per cent in 1986, after a sharp decline of between 15 and 20 per cent in the second half of 1985 when the government's economic stabilisation programme was introduced.

Hapoalim forecast last week that inflation would rise to around 30 per cent this year and a second devaluation of the shekel might be necessary later in the year, following the 9.75 per cent devaluation against the dollar in January.

Bar-Shavit also said that the government was implementing a policy of cutting taxes without a clear strategy for balancing the budget.

The IMF report said monetary policy was relaxed too fast last year and it supported the Bank of Israel's raising of interest rates in the last month.

Iran sells stake in Deutsche Babcock

FRANKFURT (R) — Iran has sold a 25 per cent stake in West German engineering group Deutsche Babcock A.G. which it bought in 1975, a consortium of four German banks said Tuesday.

Consortium leader Westdeutsche Landesbank Girozentrale (WestLB) said in a statement that the banks acquired the 1.26 million shares from Iran's central bank and would sell them mainly to financial institutions in West Germany and abroad.

Shares in Deutsche Babcock, which specialises in building power stations and in environmental

technology, fell 11.50 marks (\$6.20) on the Frankfurt Bourse on Tuesday's news to 227 marks (\$122.70). At that level the Iranian stake would be worth 286 million marks (\$154 million).

WestLB declined to say how much Iran got for the shares. Share analysts said they believed Iran needed the cash to finance its war with Iraq after last year's fall in oil prices squeezed revenues.

A Deutsche Babcock spokesman dismissed speculation that the sale would open up lucrative orders in the United States, for

instance in the Strategic Defence Initiative programme.

The company had already operated with U.S. subsidiaries with the authorities' knowledge of the Iranian stake, he said.

Iran bought the holding in Deutsche Babcock from the British firm Babcock and Wilcox in March, 1975, when it was flush with oil dollars.

It also built up holdings in the Krupp Steel and Engineering Group in 1974 and 1976. A Krupp spokesman said there were no signs it planned to sell these too.

S. Korea fights off pressure to revalue won

SEOUL (R) — South Korea will further open its market to help cut a trade surplus with the United States and fight off pressure to revalue the won against the dollar, a government spokesman said Wednesday.

The spokesman told Reuters that South Korean Trade Minister Rha Woon-Bee's rejection in Washington Tuesday of requests by industrialised nations to revalue the won undermined the Seoul government's determination to stand firm on the issue.

Mr. Rha said in a speech to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce: "Demands that Korea carry out a drastic and sudden currency revaluation of five or 10 per cent

are, I believe, extremely ill-advised."

Deputy Prime Minister Kim Mu-hye Wednesday echoed Mr. Rha when he told a meeting of local businessmen: "The government's policy on the question of revaluing the won is to maintain a steadfast position."

Mr. Kim said South Korea was ready to move only slowly to raise the won's value because of its heavy foreign debt which stood at \$44.5 billion at the end of last year.

Six industrialised nations agreed in Paris last month that newly industrialising countries, such as South Korea and Taiwan, should allow their currencies to

increase in value.

But local businessmen have said the exchange parity between the won and the dollar has already reached "crisis level."

An official of the Korea Traders' Association (KTA) said if the won strengthened by another five per cent, this would mean the loss of profitability for nearly half of all South Korean exporters.

"We are determined not to go the way of Latin American debtor nations which have suspended interest payments of their debts," the spokesman said. "The only way to keep our good record is to maintain our exports."

China allows foreign exchange bank accounts

PEKING (R) — Chinese in all parts of the country may now open foreign-exchange bank accounts, the Bank of China, quoted by the People's Daily, announced Wednesday.

The newspaper reported that up to now only residents of Guangdong and Fujian provinces, where most overseas Chinese and their descendants came from, were allowed such

accounts. Many overseas Chinese send money to relatives in those provinces, which also contain China's four special economic zones.

The newspaper said that the minimum amount needed to open an account had also been cut to 50 yuan (\$13.5) from 150 yuan (\$40) equivalent and deposits could be made in French francs

for the first time.

It said the bank's branches on Hainan island accepted deposits in Singapore dollars and those in Wenzhou, in Zhejiang province, Netherlands guilders.

The Netherlands embassy in Peking explained that Chinese have been migrating to Holland from Wenzhou for more than 100 years.

White House police demonstrate for more pay

WASHINGTON (R) — About 200 police who normally guard the president and foreign embassies demonstrated outside the White House Wednesday to publicise complaints of low pay and long working hours.

"It feels awful" to be picketing, said Peter England, a 17-year-old veteran of the uniformed division of the secret service which provides security for the White House and embassies in Washington.

But England, president of local 17 of the Uniformed Division Officers' Association which he said represents 400 of the secret service's 700 officers and sergeants, said low pay had forced secret service police to take second jobs or work on their days off to make ends meet.

He said the Treasury Department, which controls the secret service, was asking Congress for a pay increase of 12 per cent for the

police but the union wanted double that to keep up with other police forces.

Starting pay is \$20,552 rising to \$29,500 for a patrolman and more than \$34,000 for a sergeant, England said.

Secret service spokesman Bob Snow said the police received the same pay increases as other government workers. He said the union was not recognised as a bargaining agent.

S. Arabia exempts foreigners from state pension payments

RIYADH (AP) — Foreigners Wednesday celebrated King Fahd's decision to relieve them from paying five per cent of their salary to the state pension fund.

A royal decree issued overnight also stipulated that those who paid contributions in the past would have some refunded, but would also lose their right to collect a pension later.

The decree did not spell out how much would be refunded by the state-run General Organisation for Social Insurance (GOSI), nor when.

Minister of Information, Sheikh Ali Al Shaer, told the nation that King Fahd made the decision because expatriate workers were seldom in the kingdom long enough to collect GOSI benefits.

Officials in Riyadh rang with cries of "mahrouk" or "congratulations" as workers learned of the decision, which effectively raised their salaries by slightly more than five per cent.

The plan was compulsory only for companies with more than 20 workers and only about half the kingdom's estimated three million workers are believed to be active participants.

A total of 3.8 million are registered with GOSI, including some people who are not in the work force. No breakdown is

available on how many are foreigners.

The expatriates' Saudi coworkers will continue to make pension contributions.

The decree cancelled the 13 per cent GOSI contribution levied for foreigners' pensions. Employees paid five per cent, and the employers paid eight per cent.

The two per cent deducted to cover injuries and occupational illnesses will continue to be paid by the employer, and foreigners will continue to be eligible for reimbursement of such expenses.

A Riyadh lawyer, speaking on condition of anonymity, pointed out that the decision would help companies that have fallen behind in their payments to GOSI.

Such companies were subject to penalties, until GOSI recently offered amnesty to those that quickly paid up their late contributions.

Under GOSI rules, a worker must make payments for 10 years before being eligible for a pension. Most expatriates work in the kingdom for only two or three years before returning home.

Expatriates from East and West have poured into the king-

dom to help with the ambitious development schemes fuelled by the oil wealth over the recent decades.

Under GOSI benefits, workers receive two per cent of their monthly salary for their last two years of work, multiplied by the number of years they paid GOSI contributions in the kingdom.

Because the benefits were expensive, and GOSI revenues from property were falling due to a 60 per cent decline in rents and property values, GOSI was confronted with difficult times.

Further, King Fahd said there had been difficulties in paying pensions to persons overseas, and this problem was bound to increase rather than decrease.

In the period from 1973 when the programme was started, to 1983, 61.9 million riyals (\$16.5 million) in compensation grants, and 148 million riyals (\$39.4 million) in pensions were paid out, according to statistics published in Riyadh.

Many workers do not have mailing addresses, or they lose their GOSI cards, and various difficulties ensue. GOSI was already having problems with workers who retired to tiny villages in countries such as Thailand or Pakistan.

Tokyo stock prices rocket

TOKYO (R) — Tokyo stocks swept to their second straight record closing high Wednesday as cash-laden investors used any excuse to snap up shares, brokers said.

The 225-share market average climbed 98.50 to a record closing high of 21,312.96, after earlier rising as high as an all-time record of 21,371.51. A massive two billion shares changed hands.

Everything from favourable earnings reports to news of government moves to help steel makers and ship builders prompted buying, they said.

"It is just excuses (to buy) that are driving this market," said one broker. "The money is there. All they need is an excuse (to invest it)."

Brokers said Wednesday's enormous share turnover, the fifth largest in the history of the stock exchange, stemmed from financial institutions buying shares hoping for quick profits to boost their earnings before the 1986 fiscal year ends later this month.

Individual investors, lured into the market by the government's sale of shares in the mammoth Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corporation (NTT), are continuing to place their savings in stocks, brokers said.

"Some individuals who were virgins to the stockmarket were encouraged by NTT. Now many are investing in pharmaceutical companies and the like," one broker said.

Lonrho issues writ against Egyptians controlling Harrods

LONDON (R) — The international trading giant Lonrho issued a writ Tuesday alleging "fraudulent conspiracy" by department store patronised by the British royal family.

The company said it was seeking unspecified damages from Mohammed Ali and Sayed Ali Fayed, their company House of Fraser Holdings, and merchant bank Kleinwort Benson.

It said the writ claimed damages for "fraudulent conspiracy against Lonrho, and fraudulent and negligent mis-statements of fact to the Office of Fair Trading, the secretary of state for trade and industry and the former board of House of Fraser Plc."

A Lonrho spokesman declined to comment further on the writ and its allegations.

In 1985 a long-running campaign by Lonrho to take over the House of Fraser — which counts Harrods in London among its assets — was finally defeated when the Ali Fayed brothers won control of the department store chain in a £615 million (\$972 million) agreed offer.

Lonrho, run by British tycoon Roland Rowland, had been trying to acquire House of Fraser for a decade but its repeated bids were blocked by a government watchdog body.

First bankruptcy proceedings start against Hungarian firm

BUDAPEST (R) — A bank in Hungary has started bankruptcy proceedings against a state firm, the first such case since the communist nation introduced a new bankruptcy law last year, the official MTI news agency said Tuesday.

The bankruptcy law is unique in Eastern Europe where Hungary has been a pace-setter in reforming its economy.

MTI said the Hungarian Credit Bank, a profits-orientated commercial bank which was itself set up early this year under banking reforms, had started proceedings against the state building industry company of Veszprem County (VAEV).

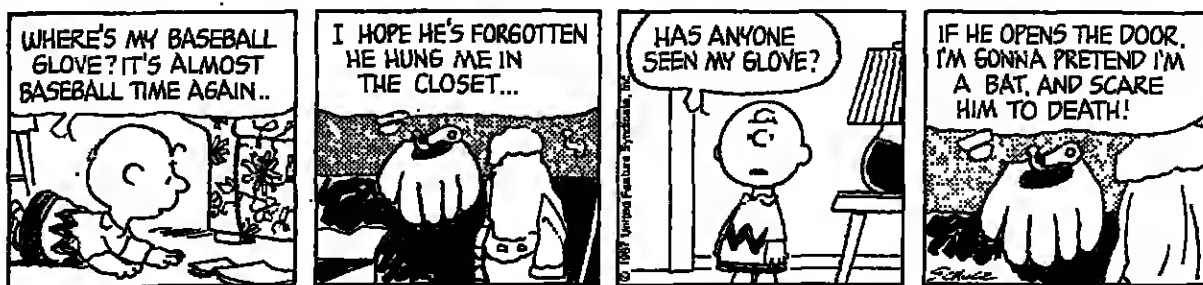
The firm ended 1985 with losses of some 300 million forints (about \$6.7 million) despite two reorganisations over the past 10 years, the agency said.

"Thus there are no further guarantees to improve company management," MTI said. The new bankruptcy law transfers much responsibility for the problems of insolvent firms from the state to creditors and the courts.

It also includes provisions for dealing with unemployment, a concept which does not exist in other East Bloc states.

But Hungarian officials insist that workers will be employed only temporarily and that mass unemployment as seen in the West could never exist here.

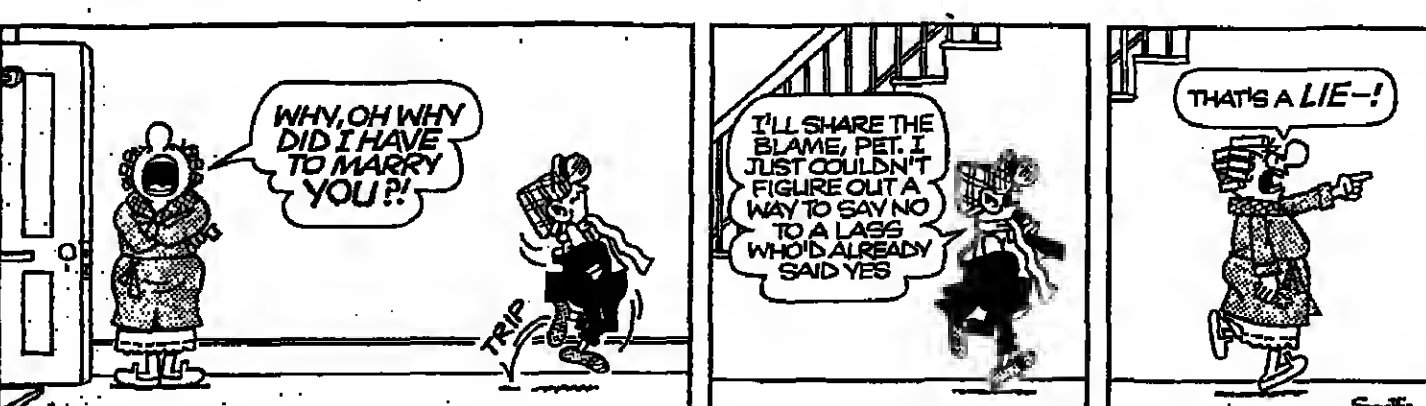
Peanuts



Mutt n' Jeff



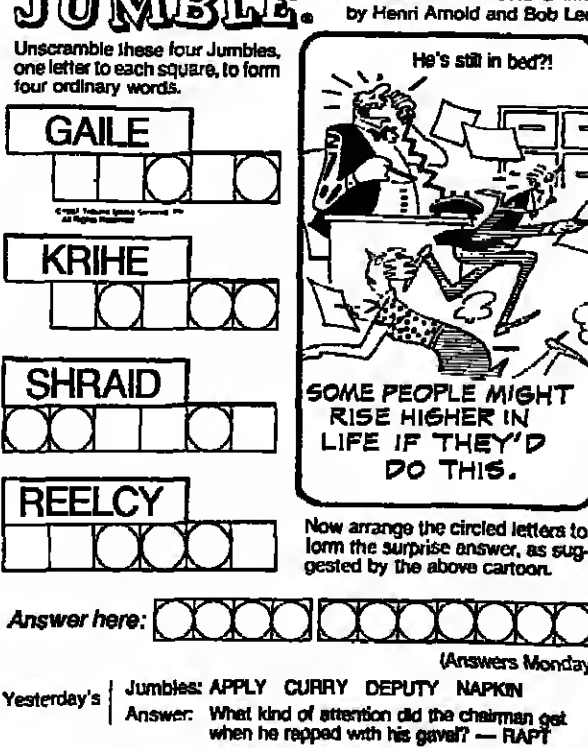
Andy Capp



THE BETTER HALF



JUMBLE



Weinberger calls for vigorous U.S. military role in space

WASHINGTON (AP) — Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger has approved a new policy directive on U.S. military operations in space that emphasises the need to prepare for combat beyond the earth's atmosphere.

The new directive, disclosed by the Pentagon on Tuesday, calls for rapid deployment of a satellite-killing rocket, completion of research on President Ronald Reagan's "Star Wars" missile defence system and studies on the need for manned military space stations.

It also calls for construction of more survivable U.S. satellites and embraces previous decisions by the Pentagon to develop a mix of unmanned rockets to augment the capacity of the space shuttle fleet.

In addition, Mr. Weinberger's directive says the military should draft procedures by which the Pentagon could take over commercial boosters to launch military payloads in an emergency.

Beyond those individual goals, however, is an overall policy statement making it clear the U.S. military should be prepared to fight in space.

The Defence Department must assure "that forces of hostile nations cannot prevent our own use of space," the directive said, adding that it is clear the Soviet Union is seeking "dominance of space."

"Space is recognised as being a medium within which the conduct of military operations in support of our national security can take place, just as on land, at sea and in the atmosphere," it said.

The new policy directive was signed by Mr. Weinberger on Feb. 4 and was immediately classified secret. A censored version

of the document was released Tuesday, however, when the Pentagon announced the secretary's action.

The Pentagon said the new directive updates a "Department of Defence space policy" that was last revised in 1982, long before the start of the Star Wars programme and the changes wrought by the loss of the space shuttle Challenger in January 1986.

Previous internal directives on the subject have discussed the need for the military to ensure U.S. access to space, particularly from the standpoint of maintaining American satellites in space for communications, navigation, reconnaissance and early-warning purposes.

The new document, however, appears to advance those goals by emphasising such "force application" steps as developing a Star Wars missile-defence system "to the point of readiness for use," deployment of "a robust and comprehensive anti-satellite

capability" and "new studies of possible military manned operations in space."

Reagan praises Weinberger

Meanwhile President Reagan, in an apparent bid to smooth ruffled feathers over the Iran arms scandal, Tuesday had his chief spokesman heap praise on Mr. Weinberger.

"Secretary of Defence Caspar Weinberger is a distinguished member of the cabinet who has served the president long and well. The president has the highest trust and confidence in Secretary Weinberger," a spokesman said.

The unusual gesture followed a Washington Post report that Mr. Weinberger unsuccessfully urged Mr. Reagan to include a passage in his address last week on the Iran-contra scandal, saying that he and Secretary of State George Shultz were wrongly criticised by a presidential commission.

Rights group says torture continues in El Salvador

SAN SALVADOR (R) — Political prisoners are routinely tortured by El Salvador's security forces, a U.S. human rights group has said in a report released here.

The Lawyers Committee for Human Rights said despite efforts to improve the judicial system, 90 per cent of the more than 1,000 political detainees were never tried.

Almost every female detainee reported rape or attempted rape shortly after arrest, the report, titled "from the ashes," added.

No officers in the security

forces had been prosecuted although a weight of evidence showed their past involvement in political killings, it said, and suspects were arrested on the slimmest grounds.

"The current system seems tolerable only when compared to the horrors of the past," it said, acknowledging a decline in human rights abuses since the early part of the decade.

Coercive interrogation was a standard operating practice for security forces, it said.

Man killed in Laos blast reportedly planted bomb

BANGKOK, Thailand (AP) — A Lao man killed in a blast outside the Soviet Cultural Centre in Vientiane, Laos, planted the homemade time bomb, a diplomat in Laos said Wednesday.

An Australian embassy official said police officials told diplomats the "primitive time bomb" exploded at 5:26 a.m. Monday (2226 GMT) as the man was setting the timing mechanism at

the centre's front door.

"It became public knowledge as early as 5:26 that the man who was killed was responsible for the homemade bomb," said the diplomat, speaking on condition of anonymity.

The time of the explosion had earlier been reported as between 6 and 7 a.m. (2300 and 2400 GMT).

Kabul offers 18-month timetable for Soviet pullout

GENEVA (R) — Afghanistan has set its proposed timetable for Soviet troop withdrawals to 18 months at United Nations-sponsored peace talks with Pakistan, Western diplomatic sources said.

Pakistan countered by saying the troops which marched into Afghanistan in December 1979 — now estimated at some 115,000 — should be withdrawn seven months after proposed U.N. peace pact was signed, the diplomats said.

The positions, set out during 13 days of indirect talks at U.N. European headquarters, represented "considerable progress," according to U.N. special mediator Diego Cordovez.

The two sides will meet again soon to pursue the moves, he told a news conference Tuesday. He hoped the delegations led by Afghan Foreign Minister Abdul Wakil and Pakistan Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan would resume talks by mid-May.

American killed in plane downed by Honduran jets

TEGUCIGALPA (R) — Honduran combat jets shot down a C-47 cargo plane that refused to identify itself, killing the pilot, a U.S. citizen reportedly linked to the drug trade, and two crewmembers, the military has said. The pilot was named in a military communiqué as Joseph Bernard Mason, a U.S. citizen; with pilot's licences from both Panama and the United States.

The communiqué said two other bodies were found in the wreckage, but Mason was the only one identified. The plane was shot down near the town of Guarica in Lempra province near the borders with El Salvador and Guatemala. Reporters returning from the scene of the crash said it was completely destroyed.

Deng, Li and Zhao invited to U.S.

PEKING (R) — Washington has invited a top Chinese leader to pay an official visit to the United States this year, a Foreign Ministry spokesman said here Wednesday.

China is now studying the invitation, contained in letters from President Ronald Reagan which were passed on by Secretary of State George Shultz during his visit last week, the spokesman said.

The spokesman said letters were sent to China's leader Deng

Xiaoping, President Li Xiannian and Premier Zhao Ziyang.

In the messages Mr. Reagan also said he attached great importance to Sino-U.S. relations, he added.

During the same press briefing, the spokesman said China had not taken up an invitation from the Soviet Union for Mr. Zhao to visit Moscow.

The offer was made last year, the spokesman said. "Our attitude at the time was that the visit ... could hardly materialise in the

near future," he added.

In 1979 Deng Xiaoping became the first Communist Chinese leader to visit the United States.

Mr. Deng met Mr. Shultz during the U.S. secretary of state's six-day visit to China. Mr. Shultz had said he would ask Chinese leaders not to supply arms to Iran.

The Foreign Ministry spokesman Wednesday repeated Peking's denial that it had ever sold weapons to Tehran.

Poll shows U.K. Labour suffers more setbacks

LONDON — A new poll showed Britain's opposition Labour Party losing support as it faced increasing public embarrassment over internal dissension about its policy of unilateral nuclear disarmament.

The ruling Conservative Party sought to highlight former Labour Prime Minister James Callaghan's direct contradiction of the policy in a speech to parliament and a top party researcher left his post over the issue.

The National Opinion Polls (NOP) survey Tuesday showed Labour five points behind the Conservatives.

The poll, conducted for the London Evening Standard, indicated the Conservatives have 39 per cent of voter support, Labour 34 per cent, the alliance of Social Democratic and Liberal parties 25 per cent, and others two per cent.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is widely expected to call national elections this year.

Labour support dropped three points in the past month, the Conservatives held steady and the Alliance gained two, according to the poll which was consistent with others in recent weeks.

Labour leader Neil Kinnock's press secretary admitted in a letter leaked last week that the party was being hurt by its "loony left" supporters, blamed for the loss of a key London by-election to the Social Democrats.

Mr. Callaghan, who led Britain from 1976 to 1979, warned the House of Commons against the danger of discarding Britain's Trident nuclear deterrent.

Colombo reports killing 14 Tamil rebels

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka (AP) — Commandos of the special police task force killed 14 Tamil guerrillas in two ambush attacks in eastern Batticaloa district, a military spokesman said Wednesday.

The spokesman, who cannot be identified under briefing rules, said the commandos killed 10 rebel fighters in the village of Chavakkaddai, 40 kilometres south of Batticaloa, on Tuesday.

Two of the victims were riding motor scooters and carrying AK-

47 assault guns, while the others were in a truck, the spokesman said.

He said the other four Tamil fighters were killed as they approached a military airstrip near Puttur, a small village six kilometres south of Batticaloa. The city is 230 kilometres north east of Colombo, the capital.

Military and security forces have been increasing attacks since mid-February against Tamil militant hideouts in Sri Lanka's east and north.

The militants have been fighting since July 1983 for a separate Tamil nation, claiming they are discriminated against by the island's majority Sinhalese Buddhists.

Tamils, who are mostly Hindus, make up 18 per cent of the island's 16 million population. Sinhalese are about 75 per cent, and the rest are Muslims or descendants of colonial settlers.

More than 5,000 people have died in the conflict.

Suharto marks 21 years in power

JAKARTA (R) — President Suharto Wednesday marked 21 years in power amid calls for a revitalisation of his military-backed administration, more democracy and cleaner government in South East Asia's largest nation.

With Indonesia heading for parliamentary elections in six weeks, the Jakarta Post newspaper said in an editorial that after 21 years of Suharto's "new order" it was time for more open government.

The newspaper, which often reflects views within the ruling Golkar Party, said that Mr.

Suharto had successfully pressed ahead with the economic development of Indonesia, a nation of 168 million people which is a major oil exporter and leading primary commodity producer.

Sustained economic progress had led to vast changes in Indonesian society, the English-language paper said, but it was now important "to open up new channels of communication and to widen the opportunities for increased political participation."

The pro-government Indonesian Times said: "We are much better off now compared to 21

years ago. (But) we could have achieved much more if there were no deviation, corruption, fraud and inefficiency."

Speaking at a Golkar meeting being held to put the final touches to the campaign for the April 23 polls, Party Chief Sudharmono gave a firm assurance on efforts to eradicate corruption.

"Golkar has a commitment to building a clean, strong government apparatus, including a hard line against corruption," said Sudharmono, President Suharto's closest adviser.

Ecuador cancels foreign debt payments; appeals for aid

QUITO, Ecuador (AP) — Ecuador has canceled foreign debt payments for the rest of the year and appealed for international aid because of a series of earthquakes that destroyed villages and crippled the nation's oil industry.

In Geneva, the International Red Cross said the provisional toll from last week's quakes was 300 dead and 4,000 missing.

"This is the most serious problem in our history," President Leon Febres Cordero said.

The government said Tuesday it could not afford to continue making payments on its \$8.2-billion foreign debt due to revenue losses caused by the quakes.

"We are not going to receive an enormous quantity of foreign

exchange, and we cannot fulfill the accord this year," Finance Minister Domingo Cordovez told reporters.

The tremors destroyed a key section of the country's main oil pipeline, forcing a halt to production and export of Ecuador's important product.

The International Red Cross, in a statement appealing for aid for quake victims, said the disaster affected 90,000 people. It said the figures were based on information from the Ecuadorian Red Cross.

The quakes, which began Thursday night and continued Friday, caused landslides and mudslides that entombed entire hamlets, covered roads, destroyed bridges and ruptured the 40 kilometre stretch of the main oil pipeline.

Peruvian floods kill 11

LIMA, Peru (AP) — Several earthen dams collapsed, unleashing a torrent of water, mud and boulders that killed at least 11 people near Lima and disrupted water supplies for the capital's 6 million residents, a civil defence spokesman said.

The flooding, which occurred Monday evening, caused the swollen Rimac River to overflow in parts of Lima.

A civil defence spokesman told the Associated Press on Tuesday that four natural dams gave way after rains in the barren highlands about 40 kilometres east of Lima. The water raced down the mountain, picking up dirt and rocks as it headed for the town of Chosica. The spokesman said 11 residents

of Chosica were killed. Other officials gave higher casualty estimates. Luis Parra, Chosica's director of public safety, said 14 bodies had been recovered, while the fire department reported 12 deaths.

Officials said boulders 4.5 metres in diameter crashed into Chosica, as the muddy torrent slammed into homes and cars and blocked the road connecting Lima to the highlands.

The avalanches also caused flooding along the Rimac, which irrigates the desert valley in which Lima is nestled. Mayor Jorge Del Castillo said some isolated shanty dwellings near the river's banks had been destroyed.

Thousands flee homes in south New Zealand floods

WELLINGTON, New Zealand (AP) — Three large country towns were evacuated as flood waters washed across southern New Zealand on Wednesday, prompting officials to declare a state of emergency.

Southland province, with a population of 100,000, was isolated when rivers burst their banks and raged through six communities.

At least 3,600 people were evacuated from low-lying homes before the floodwaters reached their peak, said Bill Early, civil defence area coordinator. He said more people will be evacuated although property damaged from the rainfall was minimal.

"We're taking people out as a precaution," he said.

All 700 occupants of Otatau, west of Invercargill, were moved out and spent the night in a hilltop golf club.

By daylight the township was under water in a repeat of a

similar flood in 1978.

"It's sad to see it (the river) flowing down the main street again," Early said.

The towns of Mataura and Gore also were partially evacuated after residents stored valuable, filled buckets with drinking water and sandbagged their homes against the floodwaters.

Residents in several other smaller settlements in Southland and the neighbouring province of Otago also were evacuated as heavy rain continued to fall in the mountains.

The flood is the second major civil emergency in New Zealand in the past week. On March 2, an earthquake of 6.5 on the Richter scale caused widespread damage to factories, homes and farms in the Bay of Plenty region on the North Island.

Officials Wednesday put the damage bill from the earthquake and more than 1,000 aftershocks at about \$100 million.

COLUMNS 76

Duchess sends toy truck to orphanage

LONDON (AP) — A toy truck was on its way Tuesday to an orphanage in Belgium when the Duchess of York, 27, died in a helicopter crash. The boy's death in the Belgian ferry disaster. The boy was a grandchild of the Duchess. The boy's parents, who were off the Belgian ferry Herald of Free Enterprise, touched the hearts of the British people, including the duchess, who visited him Saturday while he was hospitalized in Zeebrugge with a serious leg injury and cuts and bruises. The duchess asked if Martin wanted anything and he told her he wanted a special toy truck. Buckingham Palace said that the duchess, who is married to Queen Elizabeth II's son Prince Andrew, ordered the truck from a toy store and it was being sent to the orphanage.

Flying duchess takes controls in mock flight

LONDON (AP) — Prince Andrew's wife Sarah took the controls of a flight simulator and put a Jumbo jet through its paces. Sarah, 27, the Duchess of York, tried her hand at flying a Boeing Airways 757 on a visit to Heathrow Airport. Sitting in a mock cockpit with a mock cockpit and flight film, she carried out two takeoffs and two landings. Capt. Elton, British Airways training captain, who helped her through the mock flight, said she had done a "beautiful" job. "I could have left her almost alone after about 20 minutes," he said. The duchess qualified for a licence to pilot light aircraft last month. Prince Andrew, also 27, is a naval helicopter pilot.

Gorky statue given a haircut

MOSCOW (R) — A regional Soviet Communist Party leader ordered a haircut for a sculpture of the writer Maxim Gorky because his long locks were thought unproletarian, the official newspaper Sovetskaya Kultura has said. It said the incident occurred in the Ukrainian city of Dnepropetrovsk in the 1970s and cited it as an example of the follies and excesses now officially considered to have developed in that period. Komsomol (Communist Youth League) members acting on the orders of the Dnepropetrovsk regional party leader cut Gorky's hair and smoothed out the narrow trousers with which the sculpture was first made, the newspaper said.

Tutu meets his double

LONDON (AP) — Archbishop Desmond Tutu on Monday met his double at Madame Tussaud's, becoming the first black South African to have his effigy displayed in the famed waxworks museum. "I don't know how the world is going to take the strain. I mean one of us is enough and it must be making the South African government wonder a little bit," chuckled Tutu, a noted anti-apartheid campaigner.

Belgian police crack child pornography ring

BRUSSELS (R) — Belgian police have said they had cracked a major child sex ring which developed pornographic photographs of children in the basement of the main Brussels office building of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF). The police said they arrested Michel Fein, 45, a member of a Belgian Paedophile Organisation, following a raid on the UNICEF office. Fein, a volunteer with UNICEF, was using the basement of the building to develop the pictures of children aged between 12 and 16, a police spokesman said. The pictures were then sold.

WEEKEND CROSSWORD

Edited by Herb Ettenson

AKA

By Betty Jorgensen

ACROSS	DOWN	ACROSS	DOWN
1. Four	1. R. S. King	1. R. S. King	1. R. S. King
2. R. S. King	2. R. S. King	2. R. S. King	2. R. S. King
3. R. S. King	3. R. S. King	3. R. S. King	3. R. S. King
4. R. S. King	4. R. S. King	4. R. S. King	4. R. S. King
5. R. S. King	5. R. S. King	5. R. S. King	5. R. S. King
6. R. S. King	6. R. S. King	6. R. S. King	6. R. S. King
7. R. S. King	7. R. S. King	7. R. S. King	7. R. S. King
8. R. S. King	8. R. S. King	8. R. S. King	8. R. S. King
9. R. S. King	9. R. S. King	9. R. S. King	9. R. S. King
10. R. S. King	10. R. S. King	10. R. S. King	10. R. S. King
11. R. S. King	11. R. S. King	11. R. S. King	11. R. S. King
12. R. S. King	12. R. S. King	12. R. S. King	12. R. S. King
13. R. S. King	13. R. S. King	13. R. S. King	13. R. S. King
14. R. S. King	14. R. S. King	14. R. S. King	14. R. S. King
15. R. S. King	15. R. S. King	15. R. S. King	15. R. S. King
16. R. S. King	16. R. S. King	16. R. S. King	16. R. S. King
17. R. S. King	17. R. S. King	17. R. S. King	17. R. S. King
18. R. S. King	18. R. S. King	18. R. S. King	18. R. S. King
19. R. S. King	19. R. S. King	19. R. S. King	19. R. S. King
20. R. S. King	20. R. S. King	20. R. S. King	20. R. S. King
21. R. S. King	21. R. S. King	21. R. S. King	21. R. S. King
22. R. S. King	22. R. S. King	22. R. S. King	22. R. S. King
23. R. S. King	23. R. S. King	23. R. S. King	23. R. S. King
24. R. S. King	24. R. S. King	24. R. S. King	24. R. S. King
25. R. S. King	25. R. S. King	25. R. S. King	25. R. S. King
26. R. S. King	26. R. S. King	26. R. S. King	26. R. S. King
27. R. S. King	27. R. S. King	27. R. S. King	27. R. S. King
28. R. S. King	28. R. S. King	28. R. S. King	28. R. S. King
29. R. S. King	29. R. S. King	29. R. S. King	29. R. S. King
30. R. S. King	30. R. S. King	30. R. S. King	30. R. S. King
31. R. S. King	31. R. S. King	31. R. S. King	31. R. S. King
32. R. S. King	32. R. S. King	32. R. S. King	32. R. S. King
33. R. S. King	33. R. S. King	33. R. S. King	33. R. S. King
34. R. S. King	34. R. S. King	34. R. S. King	34. R. S. King
35. R. S. King	35. R. S. King	35. R. S. King	35. R. S. King
36. R. S. King	36. R. S. King	36. R. S. King	36. R. S. King
37. R. S. King	37. R. S. King	37. R. S. King	37. R. S. King
38. R. S. King	38. R. S. King	38. R. S. King	38. R. S. King
39. R. S. King	39. R. S. King	39. R. S. King	39. R. S. King
40. R. S. King	40. R. S. King	40. R. S. King	40. R. S. King
41. R. S. King	41. R. S. King	41. R. S. King	41. R. S. King
42. R. S. King	42. R. S. King	42. R. S. King	42. R. S. King
43. R. S. King	43. R. S. King	43. R. S. King	43. R. S. King
44. R. S. King	44. R. S. King	44. R. S. King	44. R. S. King
45. R. S. King	45. R. S. King	45. R. S. King	45. R. S. King
46. R. S. King	46. R. S. King	46. R. S. King	46. R. S. King
47. R. S. King	47. R. S. King	47. R. S. King	47. R. S. King
48. R. S. King	48. R. S. King	48. R. S. King	48. R. S. King
49. R. S. King	49. R. S. King	49. R. S. King	49. R. S. King
50. R. S. King	50. R. S. King	50. R. S. King	50. R. S. King
51. R. S. King	51. R. S. King	51. R. S. King	51. R. S. King
52. R. S. King	52. R. S. King	52. R. S. King	52. R. S. King
53. R. S. King	53. R. S. King	53. R. S. King	53. R. S. King
54. R. S. King	54. R. S. King	54. R. S. King	54. R. S. King
55. R. S. King	55. R. S. King	55. R. S. King	55. R. S. King
56. R. S. King	56. R. S. King	56. R. S. King	56. R. S. King
57. R. S. King	57. R. S. King	57. R. S. King	57. R. S. King
58. R. S. King	5		